TWENTY-SIXTH REPORT

OF THE

Record Commissioners.

BOSTON TOWN RECORDS.

1778-1783.

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A REPORT

OF THE

RECORD COMMISSIONERS

OF THE

CITY OF BOSTON,

CONTAINING THE

BOSTON TOWN RECORDS, 1778 TO 1783.

BOSTON:
ROCKWELL AND CHURCHILL, CITY PRINTERS.
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REGISTRY DEPARTMENT * BOSTON *

A REPORT

OF THE

RECORD COMMISSIONERS.

The Twenty-sixth Report of the Record Commissioners is a continuation of the Eighteenth, and contains the proceedings of the Town from 1778 through 1783, concluding the period of the Revolution.

Wm. H. Whitmore,
City Registrar.

Old Court House, Boston.

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BOSTON TOWN RECORDS.

[SIXTH BOOK, CONTINUED.]

[151.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, duely qualified & legally warned, in public Town Meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall. the 5th. Day of March Anno Domini 1778.

Warrant for calling the Meeting read —

The Honble. John Hancock Esq. was unanimously chosen Moderator of this Meeting.

The Comittee appointed by the Town the 5th. of March last, to apply to a proper Gentleman to deliver an Oration the 5th. of March instant, to perpetuate the Memory of the horrid Massacre perpetrated on the Evening of the 5th. of March 1770, by a Party of Soldiers under the Command of Capt. Thomas Preston of the 29th Regiment — Reported —

That having met together several Times for the Purpose mentioned in the Town Vote, they had unanimously made Choice of Jonathan William Austin Esq to deliver an Oration on the 5th. of March instant; who had accordingly accepted of that Service.

The above Report having been made by the Chairman of the Comittee, the Question was put — Whether the same shall be accepted — Passed in the Affirmative.

Upon a Motion made the Town took into Consideration, what would be the best Time to have the Oration pronounced; as also what Place would be most suitable for the Purpose — Whereupon

Voted, That the Oration be delivered at ½ past 12 O'Clock, at the Old Brick Meeting House, the Hall not being capacious enough to receive the Inhabitants that attend on the Occasion — The Committee of that Society having before consented, that the Meeting House should be made Use of for this Purpose.

Voted that Joseph Greenleaff Esq.
The Honble. John Pitts Esq.
Ellis Gray Esq.

[152.] Be a Comittee to wait on Jonathan William Austin Esq. & acquaint him that it is the Desire of the Town, that the Oration may be delivered at the Old Brick Meeting House, at ½ past Twelve O'Clock this Day.

Voted, that this Meeting be adjourned to the Old Brick Meeting House, ½ past 12 O'Clock.

The Town met according to Adjournment ½ past 12 O'Clock at the Old Brick Meeting House —

The Committee appointed to wait on Jonathan William Austin Esq. to acquaint him with the Vote of the Town, respecting the Time & Place for the Delivery of an Oration — Reported —

That said Gentleman was ready to comply with the Orders of the Town.

An Oration to commemorate the horrid Massacre of the Fifth of March 1770, & to impress upon the Minds of the Citizens the ruinous Tendency of standing Armies, being placed in free & populous Cities &c. was delivered by Jonathan William Austin Esq to a large & crowded Audience and received by them with great Applause

Upon a Motion made & seconded

Voted that the Honble. Samuel Adams Esq.
Mr. Joseph Barrel
Ellis Gray Esq.
Samuel Barrel Esq.
Honble. John Pitts Esq.
Mr. Elias Parkman
Joseph Greenleaff, Esq.

be, & hereby are appointed a Comittee to wait upon Jonathan William Austin Esq. & in the Name of the Town to thank him for the spirited & elegant Oration delivered by him at their Request, in Commemoration of the horrid Massacre **[153.]** Perpetrated on the Evening of the Fifth of March 1770, by a Party of Soldiers of the 29th. Regiment, under the Command of Captain Thomas Preston, & to request of him a Copy thereof for the Press.

On a Motion made & seconded

Voted that

The Honble. Samuel Adams
Nathaniel Barber Esq.
William Cooper Esq.
John Pitts Esq.
John Scollay Esq.
Jonathan William Austin Esq.
Perez Morton Esq.

be, & hereby are appointed a Committee, to apply to a proper Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the 5th. of March next, to perpetuate the Memory of the horrid Massacre perpetrated on the Evening of the 5th. of March 1770, by a Party of Soldiers of the 29th. Regiment, under the Command of Capt. Thomas Preston; & to impress on our Minds the ruinous Tendency of standing Armies being placed in free & populous Cities, in a Time of Peace; & the Necessity of such Noble Exertions, in all future Times, as the Inhabitants of the Town then made, whereby the Designs of the Conspirators against the public Peace, may be still frustrated.

A small Collection was made at this Meeting for Mr. Christopher Monk, a young Man now languishing under a Wound he received in his Lungs, by a Shot from Preston's bloody Party of Soldiers on the 5th. of March 1770.

Then the Meeting was dissolved.

[154.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duely qualified & legally warned, in public Town Meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 9th Day of March Anno Domini 1778.

Prayer was made by the Revd. Dr. Cooper.

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read.

Sundry Laws enjoined to be read at this Meeting were accordingly read

The Honble. John Hancock Esq was chosen Moderator of this Meeting by a Majority of Votes, & took his Seat accordingly.

Mr. William Cooper was chosen Town Clerk for the Year ensuing, by a Majority of Votes, & took the Oath of Office for the faithful Discharge of his Duty, which Oath was administred by Joseph Greenleaff Esq.

The Town proceeded to the Choice of nine Selectmen, & the Votes being brought in & sorted, it appeared, that

John Scollay Esq.
Samuel Austin Esq.
Oliver Wendeell Esq.
John Pitts Esq.
Capt Gustavus Fellows
Mr. Harbottle Dorr
Thomas Greenough
Jonathan Williams Esq.
Capt John Preston

were chose Selectmen for the Year ensuing.

The Inhabitants bro't in their Votes for Twelve Overseers of the Poor & upon sorting them it appear'd that

The Honble. William Phillips Esq.
Issac Smith Esq.
[155.] Mr. Jonathan Mason
Capt Samuel Partridge
Mr. Samuel Whitwell
Mr. John White
Edward Procter Esq.
William Powell Esq.
Mr. John Sweetser junr.
Samuel Barret Esq.
Mr. Samuel Hewes
Mr. Nicholas Bowes

were chosen Overseers of the Poor for the year ensuing.

Adjourned to 3 O'Clock P.M.

3 'Clock P.M. met according to Adjournment

Upon a Motion made & seconded, the Question was put, Whether Collectors of Taxes shall be chose seperate from Constables — Passed in the Affirmative.

On a Motion made the Question was put — Whether the sum of Five Pounds shall be remitted out of the Ten Pounds Fine to such Persons as shall be chose into the Office of Constable for the Year ensuing — Passed in the Negative.

The Inhabitants brought in their Votes for twelve Wardens, & upon sorting them it appeared, that

M^r. Henderson Inches - - - - excused
M^r. Nathan Frazier
M^r. Harbottle Dorr
M^r. William Bant - - - - - - - - D^o.
M^r. William McNiel
M^r. Nathaniel Barret
Capt Isaac Phillips
M^r. Edward Grant - - - - - - - - D^o.
M^r. Samuel Dyer
[156.] M^r. Joseph Callender
M^r. John May
Capt Jacob Williams

were chosen Wardens for the Year ensuing.

The Inhabitants brought in their votes for a Com̄ittee of Correspondence, Inspection & Safety, & upon Sorting them it appeared that

Capt Nathaniel Barber
M^r. William Davis - - - - - excused
Perez Morton Esq.
M^r. Ebenezer Dorr - - - - - - - D^o.
John Winthrop Esq. - - - - - - D^o.
Capt John Simkins
M^r. Moses Grant
D^r. Peter Roberts
Capt Amassa Davis - - - - - - D^o.
M^r. Edward Green
M^r. John Lowell

were chose a Com̄ittee of Correspondence, Inspection and Safety for the Year ensuing

The Inhabitants brought in their Votes for Sixteen Fire Wards, & upon sorting them it appear'd, that

John Scollay Esq.
Newman Greenough Esq. - - - excused
William Cooper Esq.
Edward Proctor Esq.
Francis Shaw Esq.
Capt John Pulling
Ebenezer Hancock Esq.
Paul Reviere Esq.
Major Andrew Symmes
Thomas Crafts Esq.
[157.] Capt Joseph Webb
John Winthrop Esq.
M^r. Thomas Tileston
Capt Gustavus Fellows
Capt John Ballard
Caleb Davis Esq.

were chose Fire Wards for the Year ensuing.

The Inhabitants, brought in their Votes for a Town Treasurer, & upon sorting them it appeared, that

David Jeffries Esq.

was chosen Town Treasurer for the Year ensuing.

Mess^s. William Crafts
John Lambert jun^r.
Nathaniel Wales
Moses Ayres
Samuel Dyer
were chose Fence Viewers for the Year ensuing.
Mess^s. John Champney
John Page
Edward Ranger
Joseph Ballard
Benjamin Page
William Ellison
Joseph Butler
Nathan Bradley
Elisha Byles
William Moor
Andrew Symmes
Thomas Uran
John Neal
Nathan Hancock
Benjamin Eustis
William Todd
Henry Blaisdel
[158.] Were chose Surveyors of Boards for the Year ensuing.
Capt Edward Carnes
was chosen a Surveyor of Hemp for the Year ensuing
Mess^s. William Andrews
Joseph Clark
Nathan Green
Samuel Bangs
were chose Sealers of Leather for the Year ensuing.
M^r. Adam Colson
was chose an Informer of Deer for the Year ensuing.
Mess^s. Manasseh Masters
Joseph Dyer
John Owen
Joshua Pico
Benjamin Bernard
Samuel Haley
Job Wheelwright
Paul Baxter
Nathan Spear
Edward Cowell
Ebenezer Woodward
were chose Cullers of Staves for the Year ensuing.
Mess^s. Charles Simpson
Nathan Cobbet
Benjamin Wheeler
were chose Hogreeves for the Year ensuing.

M^r. William M^c.Fadden was chosen a Hayward for the Year ensuing.

Mess^{s}. John Sigorney - - - - - - - Wards N^{o}. 1.
John Lambert - - - - - - - - - - 2.
John Cumberfoot - - - - - - - - 3.
John Coggshell - - - - - - - - - 4.
[159.] Mess^{s}. Thomas Baley - - - - - - Ward N^{o}. 5.
Moses Bradley - - - - - - - - - 6.
Elijah Campbell - - - - - - - - - 7.
Edward Gray - - - - - - - - - - 8.
Daniel Parks - - - - - - - - - - 9.
John Ballard - - - - - - - - - - 10.
Stephen Cleverly - - - - - - - - - 11.
John Lucas - - - - - - - - - - - 12.

were chose Scavingers for the Year ensuing

On a Motion made, Voted, that the Choice of Constables be referred to the Adjournment.

Votes for a County Treasurer being brought in, & sealed up in Town Meeting, were delivered to M^{r}. Constable Thomas, to be by him returned to the Court of General Sessions of the Peace at their next Meeting

The Inhabitants bro't in their Votes for Twelve Assessors, & upon sorting them it appeared, that —

Deacon Jonathan Brown
Gyles Harris Esq.
M^{r}. William Lowder
M^{r}. George B. Gidney
Deacon Thomas Foster
John R. Sigorney
Edward Green
Samuel Dyer
Capt William Fleet
Capt Samuel Dogget

were chosen Assessors for the Year ensuing.

The Selectmen were chose Surveyors of High Ways for the Year ensuing. —

Mess^{rs}. John Lucas
John White

were chose Surveyors of Wheat for the Year ensuing.

[160.] Jonathan Williams Esq.
M^{r} John Sweetser
M^{r}. Timothy Newell

were chose Purchasers of Grain for the Year ensuing; & they are desired & impower'd to give all needful Direction to the Keeper of the Granary; respecting the Quantity of Grain to be sold & affixing the Price thereof from time to time, as Occasion shall require: And the said Com̄ittee are desired & directed to cause all the Grain belonging to the Town, to be ground at the New Mills near the Mill-Bridge

Mess^{s}. Thomas Green
John Skinner

were chose Assay Masters for the Year ensuing

Voted, that

M^{r}. Thomas Walley

Mr. Ezekiel Price
Thomas Daws Esq.
Ebenezer Storer Esq.
Mr. Edward Green

be & they hereby are appointed a Comittee to audit the Accounts of David Jeffries Esq. Treasurer, & also the Accounts of the Overseers of the Poor; & the said Comittee are impowered, when they shall audit said Accounts, to allow such of the Overseers, as shall advance Money for the Relief of the poor, Interest on all such Sums from the time so advanced, until they shall have audited; & they are also desired to report from time to Time, a State of the Treasury respecting Debts and Credits, & on any Matters that they may think proper.

Voted that this Meeting be adjourned to Wednesday next, 10 O'Clock Forenoon.

Wednesday 11th. of March, 10 O'Clock Forenoon, Met according to Adjournment.

The Town brought in their Votes for two Assessors, & on sorting them it appear'd that Mr. Joseph Henderson & Mr. Benjamin Edes were chose Assessors for the Year ensuing.

[**161.**] On a Motion made Voted, that this Meeting be adjourned to 3 O'Clock P.M.

3 O'Clock, P.M. met according to Adjournment.

The Honble. John Hancock Esq. the Moderator of this Meeting being obliged to attend the House of Representatives, Mr. Ezekiel Price was chosen a Moderator Pro. Temp. by a hand Vote.

The Inhabitants bro't in their Votes for a Warden & upon sorting them it appeared, that Capt. Gustavus Fellows was chosen a Warden for the Year ensuing.

Mr. Benjamin Wheeler chosen One of the Hogreeves was excused by the Town from serving in that Office.

Mr. Thomas Hitchburne was chosen a Hogreeve for the Year ensuing.

The Inhabitants brought in their Votes for four Collectors of Taxes, & upon sorting them it appeared, that

Messs. Josiah Torry
Francis Shaw
Benjamin Cudworth
Benjamin Sumner

were chose Collectors of Taxes for the Year ensuing.

Voted, That the Assessors be, & hereby are impowered & directed to set for Abatement of such Taxes, as they shall judge reasonable, on every day of the Month following the Delivery of the Tax Books to the Collectors, Lord's Days excepted, & no longer, saving that they be allowed to set the two last Weeks in November, for the Abatement of the Taxes of such Persons, as had not an Opportunity of applying in the above limited Time, by reason of their being out of the State; at which time they are also allowed [**162.**] And impowered to abate the Taxes of such Persons as may have died insolvent before the last Day of November.

Voted, that the Consideration of Schoolmasters Salaries, & all other Salaries & Grants, be referred over to the next May Meeting.

On a Motion made,

Voted, that the Consideration of Collectors Premiums be referred to next May Meeting.

On a Motion made,

Voted, that Mr. Ezekiel Price
Mr. Thomas Walley
Thomas Daws Esq.
Mr. John Sweetser
Mr. Joseph Henderson
Samuel Barret Esq.
Mr. Gibbins Sharp

be a Committee to consider & report at the Adjournment, what Sum of Money it will be necessary to raise by a Tax to defray the Expences of the Year ensuing.

The Article in the Warrant, Viz: "To consider — Whether, agreeable to an Application of the House of Representatives, some more effectual Measures may be taken for the immediate Collecting the State Tax" — was read.

Whereupon, the Collectors were called upon, when they made it appear to the Town, that they had paid in to the State Treasury, the whole of the State Tax, which had been committed to them to collect of the Inhabitants of this Town.

The Article in the Warrant, Viz: "To consider whether, agreeable to a late Act of the General Court, a Comittee shall not now be chosen to make Provision for the Families of such non-commissioned Officers & Soldiers, as have engaged in the Continental Service" — was read & Considered, whereupon

[**163.**] Voted, that
Nathaniel Appleton Esq.
Mr. Henderson Inches
Thomas Daws Esq.
Mr. John Sweetser
Mr. Ebenezer Dorr
Mr. Nathan Frazier

be a Comittee to consider & report on this Matter at the Adjournment.

The Article in the Warrant, Viz: "What Method shall be taken to obtain Relief, in regard to the present extraordinary high Price of Provisions, & other necessary Articles of Life?" was read — Whereupon,

Voted, that Mr. Samuel Whitwell
Mr. Ezekiel Price
Samuel Barret Esq.
Mr. Joseph Barret
Mr. Thomas Walley

be a Committee to consider & report at the Adjournment what they judge best to be done.

Voted, that this Meeting be adjourned to Monday next, the 16th. of March instant, 10 O'Clock Forenoon.

March 16th. 10 O'Clock A.M. Town met according to Adjournment.

On a Motion made Voted, that the Choice of Clerks of the Market be referred over to the Adjournment.

The Selectmen acquainted the Town, that they had met the Physicians, who declared their Readiness to Innoculate the poor Inhabitants, & attend them *Gratis*, but expected that the necessary Medicines should be found them.

Voted, that the Town will pay the Expence that may arise by the Poor Inhabitants, who shall be innoculated, being supplied with Medicines, to carry them through the Small Pox.

[**164.**] The Committee appointed to consider what Method shall be taken to obtain Relief in regard to the present extraordinary high Price of Provisions, & other necessary Articles of Life" — Report

That it is their opinion, that One Great Reason of the present Excessive Price of Provisions in this Town arises from the Averice Injustice & Inhumanity of certain Persons within Twenty Miles of it, who purchase great Part of the same of Farmers living at a greater Distance, & put an exorbitant Advance upon it, which our Necessities oblige us to give; while they, having monopolized it, deal it out to us in such Quantities as they please, at a Time when the necessary Provision making for the Army, & the Consumption by so large a Body of the Enemies Troops in the Vicinity deprive us of the natural Relief we should otherwise have received from the uncommon Plenty, with which Heaven has crowned the Year.

That to remedy so great an Evil & to save the Town from utter Destruction, they are of Opinion that the following things ought to be attempted, & if attended with Success would prove effectual.

First — That a decent, yet spirited Memorial be presented to the General Assembly, setting forth the unexampled Cruelty & Oppression, under which the Town labours from certain Persons in the Country, in Addition to their other Distresses, praying their Interposition, & humbly proposing as (in the Opinion of the Town) the most efficacious Remedy, that as severe a Law, in Addition to those already in Being, as can be framed, may be enacted against the inhuman & unrighteous Practice of monopolizing the Necessaries of Life, & forestalling this Market. —

Secondly — That an Agreement be earnestly recommended to the more opulent Inhabitants of the Town, to be entered into by Subscription, for the Relief of the more indigent, that in order to reduce the Price, so far as lessing the Demand will do it, they will on no Occasion whatever, have more than *Two Dishes* of Meat on the same Day on their Table — and that they will avoid the Use of *Poultry*, & every other Superfluity as much as possible.

[**165.**] *Thirdly* — That the Inhabitants agree universally to make two Dinners p Week on Fish, if to be had.

The foregoing Report having been read & considered — the Question was put — " Whether the same shall be accepted — Passed in the Affirmative — Also

Voted, that Mess^s^. Joseph Barrel

Thomas Walley
Edward Carnes
John Reed
Major Samuel White
Capt John Byles
Ebenezer Hancock Esq.

be a Committee to draw up an Agreement conformable to the foregoing Report, & that they endeavour to procure Subscriptions to the same.

Voted, that the foregoing Committee be desired to prepare a Petition to the General Court, relative to Forestallers of the Market, & that they report the same at the Adjournment.

The Committee appointed "to consider & report at the Adjournment, what Sums of Money it may be necessary to grant for the Payment of the Schoolmasters, for the relief of the Poor, and defraying other necessary Charges" — Report,

That in a Review of the Charges of Supplies to the Alms-House, & to the poor of the Town in the several Wards, for the Six preceding Months, & on the most reasonable Estimate of the Sums necessary (considering the great Decline of Trade) to the Continuance of said Supplies for the Year ensuing, as well as to the Carrying great Numbers of the Poor *wholly*, & others *partly*, through the Expences of the Small Pox — as also from a View of furnishing the Assessors with a sufficient Fund for making Abatements in Taxes, pursuant to a Vote of the Town for that purpose, to such Persons as shall make it appear that they have been aggrieved in the same; and of making provision for the Payment of Schoolmasters, & for other [**166.**] Necessary Charges; they are of Opinion, that the Sum of Ten Thousand Pounds will be necessary for said Purposes; & that it is on every Account most eligible that the same be granted, assessed & collected as speedily as possible.

The foregoing Report being read & considered — the Question was put — Whether the same shall be accepted — Passed in the Affirmative.

Voted, that the Sum of Ten thousand Pounds be raised by a Tax upon Polls & Estates within this Town for the Relief of the Poor & defraying other necessary Charges arising within the Town the ensuing Year.

The Committee appointed "To consider what is necessary to be done respecting the Families of the Non-commissioned Officers & Soldiers, who have engaged in the Continental Army, in Conformity to a Resolve of the General Court, passed September the 29th. — " Report,

That a Commissary be immediately appointed, whose Business shall be to provide a Quantity of Indian Meal, Rye Meal, Beef, Pork, Rice & Wood, & dispose of the same to the Families of the Non-commissioned Officers & Soldiers in Town, who have inlisted into the Continental Army, agreeable to the aforesaid Resolve; — and that the Sum of four thousand Pounds be assessed immediately for that Purpose upon the Inhabitants in Addition to the Ten thousand Pounds, already Voted to defray the Common

Expences of the Town, the ensuing Year; & that the Town Treasurer be directed & impowered, to pay the same unto the Commissary that shall be chosen, as the said Monies are paid into the Treasury.

The foregoing Report having been read, it was moved, & the Question accordingly put — Whether the farther Consideration thereof shall be referred to the Adjournment — which passed in the Affirmative.

[**167.**] On a Motion made, Voted, that this Meeting be Adjourned to Tuesday next, being the 17th. instant, 10 O'Clock Forenoon.

Tuesday the 17th. Day of March, 10 O'Clock Forenoon, Town met according to Adjournment.

The Report of the Committee appointed to consider what is necessary to be done by the Town respecting the Families of the Non-commissioned Officers & Soldiers, who have engaged in the Continental army &c — was again read & considered, & the Question being put — Whether the same shall be accepted — Passed in the Affirmative. — Also

Voted, that Messrs. John Sigorney - - - - Wards No. 1.
John Bullard - - - - - - - - - - 2.
Nathaniel Hitchburne - - - - - - 3.
Gibbins Sharp - - - - - - - - - 4.
Thomas Hitchburne - - - - - - - 5.
Joseph Hall - - - - - - - - - - 6.
Nathan Frazier - - - - - - - - - 7.
Benjamin Jepson - - - - - - - - 8.
Jeremiah Belknap - - - - - - - - 9.
Thomas Daws Esq. - - - - - - - - 10.
Hermon Brimmer - - - - - - - - 11.
Thomas Baley - - - - - - - - - 12.

be a Committee, with such Persons as they shall think proper to invite, to take a Memorandum of the Names of the Non-com̄issioned Officers & Soldiers, who went from Boston into the Continental Army; the Town for which they went, &, when it can be ascertained, the Company & Regiment into which they enlisted; what Family they now have in Boston to be provided for, agreable to an Act of the General Court, passed 1777

Messs. Abraham Hayward
Clement Collins junr.

were chosen Surveyors of Boards for the Year ensuing.

[**168.**] The Article in the Warrant Viz: "To consider & determine what is proper to be done relative to the Proceeds of the damaged Fire Arms, that were put into the Hands of a Committee for purchasing new Arms for the Use of the Militia" — was read, whereupon

Voted, that the Selectmen be a Committee to make Inquiry, & report at the Adjournment.

The Committee who received two hundred and fifty one Pounds seven Shillings & Two pence from the General Court, for the defective Fire Arms, belonging to the Inhabitants of the Town of

Boston, for the Purpose of purchasing Arms — Report the following Account, Viz.

To Cash paid for 28 Fire Arms - - - - -	D^{r}.	£122 – 4 —
Ballance due to the Town - - - - - - - -		256 – 3 – 2
		£378 – 7 – 2
By Cash received for Fire Arms sold - - - -	C^{r}.	127 ——
By Cash from the Town Treasurer - - - -		251 – 7 – 2
		£378 – 7 – 2

Boston March 9th. 1778
Errors excepted
John Marston, Chairman

The foregoing Report having been read.

Voted, that Mess^{s}. John Marston
Joseph Barrel
Capt Jacob Williams
M^{r}. Martin Brimmer
Capt Joseph Webb

be a Committee to lay out the foregoing Ballance of £256 – 3 – 2 in Capt Marston's Hands, of the Produce of damaged Arms sold, in good Fire Arms, to supply such of the Militia in this Town, as are without them, they paying for the same; & to continue purchasing with the Money received for what they sell.

Voted, that this Meeting be adjourned to Monday next 22^{d}. of March instant, 3'Clock P.M.

[169.] Monday 22^{d}. March 1778, 3 O'Clock Afternoon, met according to Adjournment

The Inhabitants brought in their Votes for four Members of the Committee of Correspondence &c, & upon sorting them it appeared, that

Mess^{s}. Joseph Henderson
Joseph Hall
Capt William Brown
M^{r}. Foster Condy

were chosen Members of the Committee of Correspondence, Inspection & Safety for the Year ensuing.

Mess^{s}. Samuel Greenleaff
George Hamlin

were chose Hogreeves for the Year ensuing.

Newman Greenough having on Account of his Age desired to be excused from serving as a Fire Ward, he was accordingly excused from serving.

On a Motion made, Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be & hereby are given to Newman Greenough Esq. for his long & faithful Services, as a Fire Ward.

The Inhabitants having brought in their Votes for a Fire Ward it appeared that

M^{r}. John Lowell

was chosen a Fire Ward for the Year ensuing.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draught of a Petition to the General Court, relative to Forestallers of the Market &c — Reported the following Draught, Viz.

To the Hon^ble^. the Council & House of Representatives of the State of Massachusetts Bay,

The Memorial of the Town of Boston humbly sheweth,

That their Distresses are great on Account **[170.]** Of the *very extraordinary Price of every Necessary of Life* from *the Country*, that although the Charge of raising the Produce of the Land is but little greater on any Account than heretofore, nor so great, if we advert to the general Custom, with respect to the principal Article *Labour*, the Farmer has been in of paying One Bushel of Corn for a Days Work, whereas the Nominal Sum is Eighteen Shillings lawful Money, yet three Pecks of Corn will pay it; and altho' the Blessing of Heaven has produced an unusual abundance, yet they are pained to observe, they are obliged to give eight times as much for their Provisions as they formerly gave; and considering the Sacrifice they have made of their Trade & Substance to the General Good, which can easily be proved to have operated hitherto entirely for the Good of the Landholder, they are constrained to say this cruel Conduct is without a Paralel in the History of Mankind! — Your Memorialists would by no Means extend this to the Country indiscriminately, as there are some Instances of Brotherly Kindness, happy for this Town were they more common.

Your Memorialists are sure their uncommon Sufferings are greatly encreased by the more than Brutish Conduct of those Wretches within a few Miles of this Capital known in the odious Character of Forestallers, who, lost to the Feelings of Humanity, purchase from those at a Distance, & retail it out to these unhappy distressed Inhabitants, at a Price suited to their unfeeling Hearts, & many of them add Insult to their Extortion.

Your Memorialists apprehensive it will be impossible for them to subsist, unless a Stop is put to so merciless and distructive a Practice, pray your Honors, that an effectual Law may be enacted against this Species of Wretches, & the Town thereby receive some Alleviation to this particular Distress.

[171.] The foregoing Memorial being read & considered the same was accepted by the Town, & the Selectmen directed to sign the same, & present it to the General Court

M^r^. Edward Grant & M^r^. William Bant having desired to be excused from serving as Wardens, for Reasons offered to the Town — they were accordingly excused.

On a Motion made, Voted, that this Meeting be adjourned to Fryday next, 3 O'Clock P.M.

Fryday March 27^th^. 3 O'Clock afternoon, Town met according to Adjournment.

The Hon^ble^. John Hancock Esq. the Moderator of this Meeting being absent, the Town made Choice of M^r^. Ezekiel Price as Moderator Pro Temp. by a Hand Vote — M^r^. Price not being able to attend.

Benjamin Kent Esq. was chosen Moderator of this Meeting Pro Temp. by a Hand Vote.

The Report of the Committee appointed to consider what is necessary to be done by the Town, respecting the Families of the Non-commissioned Officers & Soldiers, who have engaged in the Continental Army in Conformity to a Resolve of the General Court, passed September the 29th — was again read, & being duely considered, the Question was put — Whether the same shall be accepted? — Passed in the Affirmative. — Also,

Voted, that the Sum of four thousand Pounds be raised, by a Tax upon Polls & Estates within this Town for the Supply of the Families of the Non-commissioned Officers & Soldiers in the Continental Army, in Addition to the Ten thousand pounds already Voted for the other Services of the Town, agreeable to the Report of the Committee.

The Town bro't in their Votes for a Commissary to supply the Families of the Soldiers enlisted into the Continental Army agreable to the Report of the Committee, & upon sorting them it appeared, that

[172.] Capt. John Simkins

was chosen Commissary for the Purpose aforesaid.

Voted, that David Jeffries Esq. Town Treasurer be, & he hereby is impowered & directed to borrow upon interest on the Credit of the Town, four thousand Pounds Voted to be assessed on the Inhabitants, for the purpose of supplying Soldiers Families, & that he pay the same, as it shall be borrowed to Capt. John Simkins chosen a Commissiary to supply the Families of the Continental Soldiers in this Town.

The Inhabitants brought in their Votes for two Wardens, & upon sorting them it appeared, that

M^r^. Benjamin Jepson
Capt. William Brown

were chosen Wardens for the Year ensuing.

Voted, that all Matters & Things which remain unfinished be referred over to the General Town Meeting in May next, then to be considered & acted upon.

Then the Meeting was dissolved.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duely qualified & legally warned in public Town Meeting assembled, at Faneuil Hall, on Saturday the 14th. of March Anno Domini 1778 — 10 O'Clock A.M.

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read.

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw & bring in their Votes for a Moderator, and the same being bro't in and sorted it appeared that,

The Hon^ble^. Samuel Adams Esq.

was chosen, who took his place accordingly.

The Article in the Warrant Viz. "To consider and determine what is proper to be done with respect to the Small Pox, [173.]

Which, in the Righteous Providence of God, appears likely to take a sudden Spread in this Town" — was read.

The Selectmen laid before the Town a State of the Small Pox, by which it appeared, that, besides those who had been removed to the Hospitals there were about fifteen Families now visited with that Distemper — and from the Accounts given by others, there was reason to conclude that, a greater Number of Houses was infected.

It being suggested that D^r. Danforth a Physician of this Town had inoculated a Number of the Inhabitants

Voted that Col: Daws
M^r. Joseph Barrel
Ellis Gray Esq.

be a Committee to confer with D^r. Danforth relative to said Suggestion.

The forenamed Committee having conferred with D^r. Danforth, Reported, that the Doctor had assured them, that there was no foundation for the Report — that he had not inoculated any One himself, & knew of no One that had been inoculated by any other Physician.

Voted, that this Meeting be adjourned to 4 O'Clock in the Afternoon.

4 O'Clock P.M. Town met according to Adjournment

It having been suggested, that an Order had passed the Hon^ble. Board, or General Court, permitting a Number of Col: Crafts Regiment of the Train to be inoculated in this Town, the Deputy Secretary M^r. Avery was desired to attend the Meeting.

The Deputy Secretary attended, & laid the following Resolve, which passed the General Assembly the 12^th. Instant, before the Town, Viz.

Resolved, that D^r. Joseph Gardner, be, & hereby is impowered to improve the Hospital at West Boston for the **[174.]** Sole purpose of innoculating such of the Soldiers in Col. Crafts Regiment, as may be willing to receive the Small Pox under the Direction of the Selectmen of the Town of Boston, who are hereby directed to put said Hospital under such Regulation, as has by them been heretofore established, & to continue their Vigilance to prevent the spreading of said Distemper; & Col. Tho^s. Crafts is hereby directed to afford said Selectmen such Guards & other Assistance is his power; as said Selectmen shall require.

The Town having duely considered what had been laid before them relative to the Small Pox, it was moved that the Sense of the Town be taken theron, by the following Question being put, Viz. "Whether there is, in their Opinion, a rational Probability that, under present Circumstances, the Spread of the Small Pox may be prevented," & the same being put, it appeared to be the Sense of the Town, that it could not.

It was then moved, & the Question accordingly put, — "Whether such Persons, Inhabitants of this Town, who have not had the Small Pox, may be permitted immediately to innoculate" — Passed in the Affirmative.

It was also moved & accordingly Voted, that the Physicians of this Town be desired, that they do not innoculate any Persons for the Small Pox after the 24th. of March instant.

Voted, that the Selectmen be directed to acquaint the Physicians of the Town with the preceeding Vote, & that a strict Compliance with the same is expected from them.

Then the Meeting was dissolved.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders, & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duely qualified & legally warned, in public Town Meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 4th. day of May Anno Domini 1778.

[175.] Warrant for calling the Meeting - - - - read —

The Inhabitants were desired to withdraw and bring in their Votes, for a Moderator of this Meeting, & the same being bro't in & sorted, it appeared, that,

The Honble. John Hancock Esq was unanimously chosen Moderator.

Several Resolves of the General Assembly of this State, relative to new Draughts of Men, — were laid before the Town by Col: Hatch, & read by their Orders.

The Article in the Warrant Viz. "To consider & determine upon a Method for raising in the most expeditious & least burdensome Way, the Eighty Six Men ordered by the General Assembly of this State, to be draughted from the Boston Regiment, to serve in the Continental Army, or otherwise to act therein as they may judge best,"— was read, & after some Consideration had thereon —

It was moved & carried, that a Committee be appointed to take this Matter into Consideration, & to report what they shall judge to be best for the Town to do thereon, at the Adjournment of this Meeting

Voted, that Caleb Davis Esq.
Mr. Joseph Barrel
Thomas Daws Esq
Col: John Hatch
Mr. Henderson Inches
Mr. Ebenezer Dorr
Col: Thomas Tyng
Major Edward Procter
Mr. Hermon Brimmer
Mr. Ezekiel Price
Major Joseph Webb
Mr. John Reed
Mr. Thomas Walley

[176.] Be a Committee for the Purpose aforesaid

A Letter from General Heath urging the immediate Cleansing of the Town from the Small Pox &c was read — and the Inhabitants afterwards desired to proceed in cleansing their Houses, with all possible Dispatch.

On a Motion made Voted, that this Meeting be adjourned to Tuesday the 6th: instant, 10 O'Clock in the Forenoon.

Tuesday May 6th. 10 O'Clock Forenoon met according to Adjournment

The Committee appointed by the Town to consider at large the State of the Town; their Proportion of the Army, & the easiest & most expeditious Manner to raise the Eighty Six Men now ordered by the General Court, without adverting (at this time) to the Propriety or Impropriety of the Measure, with respect to this Town, — Report

That the easiest way will be by giving them a handsome Bounty.

They therefore propose to the Town, that a Bounty of Sixty pounds lawful Money, including the State Bounty — mentioned in the Resolve, be given to every person inlisting to make up the Number of Fifty men, ordered to join General Washington for Nine Months; & a Bounty of Thirty Pounds to every Person inlisting to make up the Number Thirty Six men, ordered to the North River for Eight Months. who are considered as a Detachment from the Militia.

These Bounties will amount to four thousand & Eighty pounds, to raise which the Committee advise, that about Six hundred pounds now in the hands of the Town Treasurer *for this purpose*, & also the Sum of about four hundred pounds, generously raised by the Independent Company on this Occasion, be immediately delivered to Col: Hatch, & that the remaining [**177.**] Sum of about three thousand & Eighty pounds, be borrowed by Subscription, which Sum shall be added to the next Town Tax & for the Repayment thereof the Town Treasurer be directed to give his Notes accordingly.

That Col: Hatch be desired to appoint some proper Persons to beat up for Voluntiers until next Tuesday, on which Day the several Companies to be raised, & the Deficiency (if any at that time) be then draughted from the Companies: The Committee think it of very great Consequence, that the several Companies be enjoined, on no Terms, & in no way, to encrease the Bounty above mentioned, as now the Men will be all on the same footing, & knowing the Extent of the Bounty, those who intend to enlist will do it immediately.

The Committee would farther advise (should the Col: be reduced to the disagreeable Necessity of draughting men, and any persons so draughted should pay their Fines) that the Fines so raised should be put into the Treasury, in order to make up the Sum now promised by the Town, & not as heretofore has been the Custom, divide it among those who should afterwards inlist.

The Committee think it highly expedient, that due Care should be now taken to ascertain the Men raised, *that they are for this Town*. Had this been done in the late Levies, this Town had been delivered from this oppressive Draught, & saved a very large Sum of Money.

The Town will do well to consider, that by the present Resolve of the General Court, no man from this Town, or any other, is allowed to inlist for any Town, but that they belong to; so that those who may expect larger Advantages, will assuredly be disappointed.

The foregoing Report having been read & considered, it was Voted, that the same be accepted — & that the Committee be desired to sit again & report further at the next Meeting. — Also

[178.] Voted, that Mr. William Davis
Dr. John Loring
Mr. Nicholas Bowes
Mr. Daniel Parker
Mr. William Gooch

be a Com̄ittee to procure Subscriptions agreable to the foregoing Report.

On a Motion made Voted, that the Town will repay to Col: Hatch, whatever Sum it may be necessary for him to pay, as Charges incurred by raising of the Men.

Voted, that David Jeffries Esq. Town Treasurer be, & he hereby is empowered & directed to borrow on the Credit of the next Tax upon Polls & Estates within this Town, a Sum, not exceeding thirty three hundred Pounds, for the purpose mentioned in the foregoing Report, for the Repayment of which he is to give his negotiable Notes.

Then the Meeting was dissolved.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duely qualified and legally warned, in public Town Meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall, on Wednesday the 13 day of May Anno Domini 1778.

Prayer was made by the Reverend Mr. Wight.

The Precept & Warrant for calling the Meeting - - - read
Sundry Laws - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - read

The Town having determined to chuse Seven Persons to represent them in the Great & General Court or Assembly, to be held at the Town House in Boston, upon Wednesday the 27th. Day current — the Inhabitants were accordingly directed to withdraw, & bring in their Votes for Seven Representatives, & then it was

[179.] Declared by the Selectmen, that no Votes will be received but such as are unfolded, & that they propose the Poll shall be closed at 12 O'Clock.

The Votes being brought in for Seven Representatives the Number of the same was found to be three hundred & forty-five — & upon sorting them it appeared that the following Persons were Chose, Viz.

The Honble. John Hancock Esq.	335.
The Honble. William Phillips Esq.	227.
The Honble. John Pitts Esq.	342.
Oliver Wendell Esq.	337.
Caleb Davis Esq.	334.
Ellis Gray Esq.	329.
John Lowell Esq.	221.

The Choice of Representatives being over, & declared by the Selectmen, the Inhabitants were directed to withdraw & bring in their Votes for a Moderator of this Meeting, in order that the Town may proceed in transacting the other Affairs mentioned in the Warrant; accordingly the Inhabitants withdrew, & bro't in their Votes, & upon sorting them it appeared, that

The Hon^{ble}. John Hancock Esq.

was chosen.

Adjourned to 3 O'Clock in the Afternoon.

3 O'Clock in the Afternoon, met according to Adjournment.

The Article in the Warrant Viz. "To consider what Regulations are necessary to be made respecting Faneuil Hall Market" — was read, & after some Debate, it was

Voted, that the Selectmen give Orders that the Doors of the several Arches in Faneuil Hall Market, be taken off the Hinges, & that the Market House be kept open & free from Incumbrances, till the farther Orders of the Town.

[180.] The Article in the Warrant Viz. "To consider whether Instructions shall be given to the Representatives that may be chosen" — was read, & the Question being accordinly put — Passed in the Negative.

The Committee appointed to consider what is proper to be done by the Town, on their Voting to furnish the eighty Six Men ordered to be draughted, as their Proportion of the Continental Army — Reported the following Draught of a Memorial to the General Assembly — Viz.

To the Hon^{ble}. the Council & House of Representatives of the State of Massachusetts' Bay in General Court assembled.

May it please your Honors.

The Inhabitants of the Town of Boston beg leave to state to your Honors their Situation with Regard to the Continental Army.

The Quota assigned this Town for the fifteen Battalions for the State, was *one* Seventh of the Inhabitants the Return made & sworn to by the Selectmen was 2852 including 188 Molattoes & Negroes; since which our Numbers are so decreased, that the Training Bands & Alarm Lists, by a Return from Col: Hatch taken last Winter, was only 1423.

We have in the Continental Army 527, Rank & File (all of those who have Families are *now* supplied by the Town at the *regulated Price* 85 Officers, 106 Artificers, 14 Quarter Masters, & other Officers in the Continental Department (exclusive of near 300 in the Continental Navy) these we can prove by an exact Return, now in the Possession of Col: Hatch, and a Number of others, whose Regiment & Company cannot be ascertained at present, those together make the Number above **[181.]** 1000 Men, without the 87 now ordered, or any regard had to Col: Craft's Regiment, many of which belong to this Town — Besides, such have been the frequent Draughts from the Militia for short Terms of Duty, that almost every Man has served Twice.

We trust the Court will not take Advantage of the Omission of the Place of Abode, & other Requisites in the Return of such Men belonging to this Town, as are inlisted into the Continental Army, for this Omission cannot in Justice be charged on this Town; for, the *inlisting*, the *mustering*, & the *returning Officers*, are all appointed by the Court; in one of those, or in the Designation of their Duty, must the Error lye; & we are *peculiarly affected*, when we are told, that as the Return was not made according to the *Mode prescribed*, the Town is called upon, as delinquent, upon the *Score of Omissions*, though a very considerable Creditor upon *that of Justice.* — We hoped, & *we will still hope*, the Hon^{ble}. Court will be governed more by the *latter*, Consideration than the former, *especially* as they may remember, that, the Mode *now prescribed*, never made *its Appearance*, till after a great Number of our Men were mustered, Col: Bromfield made a Return according to the *then Mode*, which we suppose was agreable, as far as it went.

We have exerted ourselves to supply the 87 Men now ordered, altho' we are convinced that *we have done more than our Duty*, & we find the main Difficulty *is* a Consciousness in the Breast of almost every Individual, that we are greatly, *very greatly oppressed in this particular*, tho' we are determined to a man not to be out done by any Town in the State, & we trust it will appear, we have more in proportion in actual Service than any other, notwithstanding the many Draughts from this Sea Port, by Men of War & Privateers, without whose Assistance **[182.]** We had long before this been reduced to the most wretched Situation.

We submit these Matters to your Honor, & we pray for such Redress, as *Justice demands*, we do not petition for favor, we ask not the least Alleviation in any *necessary proportioned* Difficulty, but we do expect, & *have a Right to demand Justice;* & when these Matters are equitably adjusted, if we then are delinquent, we are ready at all Events to supply the Deficiency, but if we have a Surplusage we expect to remain Creditors therefor.

The foregoing Draught of a Memorial being read & considered paragraph by paragraph, the same was accepted by the Town, & the Selectmen are directed to sign the same, & present it to the General Court.

Adjourned to Monday the 25th. of May, instant 9 O'Clock A.M.

Monday the 25th. of May, 9 O'Clock, met according to Adjournment.

The Hon^{ble}. John Hancock Esq. Moderator of this Meeting having signified to the Town that he was unable to attend — the Inhabitants were desired to withdraw & bring in their Votes for a Moderator Pro Temp. the Votes being collected and sorted, it appeared that

The Hon^{ble}. Thomas Cushing Esq. was chosen.

The Draught of a Petition to the General Court relative to the Men raised for the Continental Army, was again read, & after some Debate, Voted, that the same be recommitted.

On a Motion made the Question was put Whether the Town will reconsider the Vote passed at the last Meeting not to give Instructions to their Representatives — Passed in the Affirmative.

[183.] Voted, that Nathaniel Appleton
Joseph Barrel

Ezekiel Price
Samuel Barret
Col: Thomas Daws

be a Committee to prepare Instructions for the Gentlemen who represent this Town in the General Assembly — to report the same at the Adjournment.

Voted, that this Meeting be adjourned to To-morrow 10 O'Clock to meet at the Old Brick Meeting House.

Tuesday May 26th. 10 O'Clock A.M. met according to Adjournment.

The Committee to whom was recomitted the Draught of a Memorial to the General Court — Reported, as entered Page 165 — which Report was accepted, & the Selectmen were directed to sign the same, & handed to our Representatives, to be by them presented to the General Assembly.

The Committee appointed to prepare Instructions for our Representatives. Reported a Draught, which was read, & after considerable Debate, it was moved, & the Question accordingly put — That the Matter of Instructions subside, which passed in the Affirmative.

Voted, that this Meeting be adjourned to Monday next, 4 O'Clock P.M. to meet at Faneuil Hall.

Monday June 1t. 1778, 4 O'Clock P.M. Met according to Adjournment.

The Honble. Thomas Cushing Esq. Moderator of this Meeting being absent thro' Sickness.

Jonathan Williams Esq.

was chosen Moderator Pro. Temp. by a Hand Vote.

[184.] On a Motion made,

Voted, that Mr. Ezekiel Price
Mr. Peter Boyer
Mr. Thomas Walley
Samuel Barrett Esq.
Deacon Timo. Newell

Be a Committee to consider & report, what Grants may be necessary to make the several Schoolmasters for their Support the present Year.

Voted, that all Matters & Things, which remain unfinished at this Meeting, be referred over to the Town Meeting on Wednesday next for the Choice of two Selectmen

Then the Meeting be dissolved.

At a Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, being free, & Twenty One Years of age, duely qualified & legally warned, in public Town Meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall, on Monday 25th. Day of May Anno Domini 1778.

Warrant for Calling the Meeting - - - - - - - - read

The Honble. Thomas Cushing Esq. was chosen Moderator of this Meeting by a Hand Vote.

A Motion being made for an Adjournment on Account of the Small Number of Inhabitants at this Meeting, when Business of so much Moment, as the accepting or rejecting of the Form of Government agreed on by the late Convention. was to be transacted — It was previously Voted, that at the Adjournment moved for, all the Bells be rung for ½ an hour, before the time of Meeting, & that the Constables be desired to go through their several Wards & desire the Inhabitants to shut up their Shops, that all qualified might attend the Meeting.

[185.] Voted, that this Meeting be adjourned to ½ past 3 O'Clock in the Afternoon, then to attend at the old Brick Meeting House.

3 O'Clock Afternoon, met according to Adjournment

A *Constitution & Form of Government* for the *State* of *Massachusett's Bay*, as agreed on by the *Convention* of said *State* February 28th. 1778, to be laid before the several Towns & Plantations, in said *State*, for their Approbation or Disapprobation, was distinctly read & duely considered — And the Question being put, Viz: — Whether the Inhabitants do *approve*, or disapprove of said Form of Government, Nine hundred & Sixty eight Persons being present, & voting on the Question.

On a Motion Voted, that

Mr. John Winthrop
Mr. Joseph Barrel
Perez Morton Esq.
Mr. Ezekiel Price
Mr. Nathaniel Appleton

Be a Committee to draw up Instructions relative to a Form of Government for this State, to report at the Adjournment.

Voted, that this Meeting be adjourned to Monday next, 3 O'Clock P.M. to meet at Faneuil Hall.

June 1t. 1778, 3 O'Clock P.M. next according to Adjournment.

The Honble. Thomas Cushing Esq. Moderator of this Meeting being absent, occasioned by Sickness,

Jonathan Williams Esq.

was chosen Moderator Pro Temp. by a Hand Vote.

The Committee appointed to draw up Instructions for our Representatives, relative to a Constitution or Form of Government — Reported the following Draught, Viz.

To the Representatives of the Town of Boston — **[186.]**
Gentlemen,

You are hereby instructed by the Town of Boston to inform the Honble. General Court, that after *mature Deliberation*, in a very full Meeting, consisting of Nine hundred & Sixty eight, we Voted unanimously, to Reject the Form sent out by the Convention, & proposed by them for the Government of this State in future, & to assure them, that a full Conviction of the Impropriety of this Matter's Originating with the General Court, was the Reason which induced us, the last Year, to instruct our Representatives, *on no Terms to consent to any Proposals for this Pur-*

pose; & we are free to declare, the Specimen we now have, in the *Form proposed*, has confirmed us fully, even to *Demonstration*, that we were right in our Conjectures of that Hon^{ble}. Body's being improper for this Business: — A Convention for this, & *this alone*, whose Existence is known No Longer than the Constitution is forming, can have no Prepossessions in their own Favor, while it is hard for the General Court, upon a Matter of this Kind, to divest themselves of the Idea of their being *Members;* & the probability that they may continue such, may induce them to form the Government with peculiar Reference to themselves: — To this we suppose it is owing, that the Legislative & Executive Branches are so blended, & that nothing appears, but that the Members of the Court may monopolize to themselves a Variety of Offices, which we are fully persuaded, the best Form of Government will ever keep these Branches intirely distinct, & the Members confined to their particular Duties, without Incumbrance.

'Tis needless to particularize the many Objections which we could offer to the Form — It is defective in its Foundation; for it's surely of Importance, that all Forms of Government should be prefaced by a Bill of Rights; in this we find no Mention of any: — But, was it unexceptionable in all its Parts, except that of Representation, that alone would be [**187.**] Sufficient with every one possessed of the least Idea of Justice, or the smallest Knowledge of the *Rights* of Human Nature, to reject with Disdain, a Proposal so diametrically opposite to both. — Representation ought to be conformable to some Rule, either *Property* or *Numbers*, or *both;* but in the Present no Regard is had to either, and *Reason*, *Justice*, & *common Sense*, must be tortured to a great Degree, to accept that Representation, as equal, which may be as *Ten* or *Twenty* to *One:* "For every incorporated Town, without ascertaining the Number of Voters, may send one Member, while no Town, having any Number under three hundred, shall send more." If this is equal, if this is just, all the Rules of Arithmetic, which have been in use since the Formation of Figures, must be done away; but until this *new Rule* of Calculation receives the Stamp of Authority, we cannot Consent to it; for we are possessed of that *antiquated Notion*, that two & two are always equal to four, & it appears to *us* absolutely impossible to prove the contrary.

We were, & still are of Opinion, that a *time* of War is not the time to form Constitutions; we feel the ill Consequence of this Matter, having taken up the time of the General Court, while the Army was neglected — We wish the present may profit by the Errors of the last. — Should it be declared, that this Form is adopted by two thirds of the State, you will be careful that exact Scrutiny be made, as to the Numbers, & at all Events *enter your solemn Protest against the Glaring Injustice of Representation;* but should it meet the Fate we hope & expect, of a total Rejection, & a new one is proposed, you are by no Means to give your Consent, but protest against & oppose it in every Stage of its Progress, & thereby do what is in your power, to prevent unnecessary Expences of public Money.

The present Form of Government we look upon equal to the

Exigencies of the Times, & hold ourselves bound to support it with our Lives & Fortunes.

[**188.**] At a proper Time your Constituents wish ardently a new form, & perhaps in a Day of Tranquility, such an One may be adopted as shall please all good Men, & save us from the Dissentions which we find attending the present Time.

The foregoing Draught of Instructions to our Representatives having been read & considered, the Question was put — Whether the same shall be accepted, & given to our Representatives as their Instructions — Passed in the Affirmative.

On a Motion Voted, that those Instructions be printed in the News Papers.

Then the Meeting was dissolved.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duely qualified & legally warned, in public Town Meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall, on Wednesday the 3^d. Day of June, Anno Domini 1778.

The Precept and Warrant for calling the Meeting read

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw & bring in their Votes for Two Representatives, in the Room of the Hon^{ble}. Oliver Wendell & John Pitts Esq^{rs}., elected Counsellors; & then it was proposed that the Poll should be closed at 12 O'Clock.

The Votes being bro't in for two Representatives, the Number of the same was found to be 250 — & upon sorting them, it appeared, that

M^r. Joseph Barrel was chosen - - - - - - - - - - 189.

The Votes being bro't in for One Representative, the Number of the same was found to be 218 — & upon Sorting them it appeared that

Thomas Daws Esq. was chosen - - - - - - - - - - - 128.

[**189.**] The Choice of Representatives being over & declared — by the Selectmen, the Inhabitants were directed to withdraw & bring in their Votes for a Moderator of this Meeting, in order that the Town may proceed in transacting the other Affairs mentioned in the Warrant & those which were referred over at the May Meeting — accordingly the Inhabitants withdrew, and brought in their Votes, & upon sorting them it appeared, that

The Hon^{ble}. James Otis Esq.

was chosen.

Adjourned to 3 O'Clock in the Afternoon.

3 O'Clock P.M. met according to Adjournment

The Town proceeded to the Choice of two Selectmen, and upon sorting the Votes bro't in, it appeared, that

M^r. Nathan Frazier

was chosen a Selectman for the year ensuing.

The Town again bro't in their Votes for one Selectman & upon sorting them, it appeared, that

M^r. Ezekiel Price

was chosen a Selectman for the Year ensuing.

The Committee appointed to consider and report, what Grants it may be necessary to make to the several Schoolmasters, for their Salaries & Support the present year — Reported as on File, & the Question being put — Whether the same shall be accepted? Passed in Affirmative

Voted, that the Sum of One hundred & Twenty Pounds be allowed & paid unto M^{r}. Samuel Hunt for his Salary, as Master of the South Grammar School, for the Year ensuing, the same to be paid him quarterly, as it shall become due, and to commence from the Expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted, that the additional Sum of One hundred & Eighty Pounds, for Six Months, commencing the 1^{t}. of March last, **[190.]** Be allowed & paid unto M^{r}. Samuel Hunt, on Account of the present high Price of Provisions &c.

Voted, that the Sum of One Hundred Pounds be allowed & paid unto M^{r}. Samuel Holbrook for his Salary, as Master of the Writing School in the Common, the Year ensuing, the same to be paid him quarterly, as it shall become due, & to commence from the Expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted, that the farther Sum of one hundred pounds for Six Months, be allowed & paid unto M^{r}. Samuel Holbrook on Account of the present high Price of Provisions &c.

Voted, that the Sum of One hundred pounds be allowed & paid unto M^{r}. James Tileston for his Salary, as a Master of the North Writing School, the same to be paid him quarterly as it shall become due, & to commence from the Expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted, that the farther Sum of one hundred pounds be allowed & paid unto M^{r}. James Tileston, for six Months, on Account of the present high Price of Provisions &c.

Voted, that the Sum of one hundred pounds be allowed & paid unto M^{r}. James Carter, for his Salary, as Master of the writing School in Queen Street, for the Year ensuing, the same to be paid him quarterly as it shall become due, & to commence from the Expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted, that the farther Sum of one hundred pounds for Six Months, be allowed & paid unto M^{r}. James Carter, on Account of the present high Price of Provisions &c.

Voted, that the Sum of Sixty pounds be allowed & paid unto M^{r}. William Bently, for his Salary as Usher of the South Grammar School, the Year ensuing, the same to be paid him quarterly as it shall become due, & to commence from the Expiration of the last Quarter. Voted, that the farther Sum of eighty pounds, for Six Months, be allowed & paid unto M^{r}. William Bently, on Account of the present high Price of Provisions &c.

[191.] Voted, that the Sum of one hundred & thirty pounds be allowed & paid out of the Town Treasury, unto David Jeffries Esq. for his services, as Treasurer of the Town the Year past, & for all his Expences in that Office.

Voted, that the Sum of one hundred and eighty pounds, be allowed & paid out of the Town Treasury unto David Jeffries Esq. in Consideration of the high Price of Provisions &c.

The Committee appointed to examine the Accounts of David Jeffries Esq. Town Treasurer, have attended that Service, & find the same from March 1775, to March 1778 right cast and well vouched, in which he charges himself with sundry Rents & other Incomes of the Town, amounting to £10612 – 9 – 11.

And the said Treasurer discharges himself by Abatements made the Collectors amounting £967 – 18 – 8 — by draughts made by the Selectmen amounting to £4178 – 3 – 3 of which he has paid £3922 – 12 – 3 — by Draughts made by the Overseers of the poor, amounting to £5615 – 6 – 1¾ — of which he has paid £4991 – 10 – 1¾ — & also by sundry Sums paid for Interest &c — amounting to £150 – 3 – 5 — The Debt of Account of Town Treasurer, in the Treasurers Books amount to Sixteen thousand two hundred & five Pounds 14 f 5^d. ½

The Committee have inspected said Draughts in a very particular manner, & every other Branch of public Charge, amounting in the whole to above £16205 – 14 – 5½ as by Account of Town Treasurer in Town Treasurer's Books Ballance where of being five thousand five hundred and ninety three pounds 4/6½, is carried to the Debet of a new Account.

Which Report & Account being read, Voted, that the same be, & hereby is accepted.

[192.] Voted, that the Selectmen be, & they hereby are appointed to act upon the List of Jurors.

Voted, that the Sum of Thirty three hundred Pounds be raised by a Tax upon Polls & Estates within this Town, for the Repayment of the Sums borrowed by Subscription for the Bounty Voted the 6th. of May last, to be given the 86 Men, raised by a late Order of the General Court, as this Towns Proportion of the Continental Army, in Addition to the Ten thousand & four thousand pounds, already Voted for the other Services of the Town the present Year.

Then the Meeting was dissolved.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duely qualified & legally warned, in public Town Meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall, on Wednesday the 24th. Day of June Anno Domini 1778.

Warrant for calling the Meeting read

The Inhabitants bro't in their Votes for a Moderator of this Meeting, & the same being sorted it appeared, that

M^r. William Davis

was chosen.

The Town took into Consideration the Resolve of the General Assembly of this State passed June 10th. 1778 — the Selectmen of each Town in this State, are directed to pay out of the Treasury of their respective Towns, the Sum of fourteen pounds, to each Non-Commissioned Officer & Private, that shall be detached & Mustered, agreable to said Resolve, to serve in the Army, for the Defence of Rhode Island &c.

[193.] Also Six pence p Mile for Mileage to said Men" — Whereupon

Voted, that David Jeffries Esq. Town Treasurer be, & he hereby is impowered & directed to borrow on the Credit of the next Tax upon Polls and Estates within this Town, the Sum of Seven hundred & fifty Pounds for the purpose mentioned in a Resolve of the General Court passed the 10th. of June 1778, for the Repayment of which he is to give his negotiable Notes on Interest — Also

Voted, that Mess^s. Daniel Bell
Capt Jonathan Stoddard
be a Committee to procure Subscriptions agreable to the foregoing Vote.

Voted, that the Sum of Seven hundred & fifty pounds be raised by a Tax upon Polls & Estates within this Town, for the Repayment of the Sums to be borrowed by the Town Treasurer for the Bounty & Mileage, allowed by the General Assembly in their Resolve, passed the 10th. Day of June Current, to be given this Town's Proportion of the eighteen hundred Men, ordered to be raised by Draughts on several Regiments in this State to serve in the Army for the Defence of Rhode Island &c the same to be added to the next Assessment

Then the Meeting was dissolved.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duely qualified & legally warned, in public Town Meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall, on Thursday the 6th. Day of August A.D. 1778

[194.] Warrant for Calling the Meeting read.

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for a Moderator of this Meeting, & the same being brought in and sorted, it appeared, that

The Hon^ble. John Hancock

was chosen unanimously Moderator of this Meeting, and took his Seat accordingly.

The Article in the Warrant Viz. "To consider and determine, what Steps are proper to be taken, with respect to a Number of Persons, late Inhabitants of this Metropolis, who have sought & received Protection from the British King, and, as it is report^d, are about returning to this Town" — was read & also the Application to the Selectmen for Calling the Meeting — After very warm Debates upon the Subject

It was moved that the Sense of the Town may be taken, Whether they will now proceed to take any Steps in this Matter — And the Question being accordingly put — It passed in the Affirmative Unanimously

It was then Voted, *unanimously*, that it is the Opinion of this Town, that no one of those Persons, that have left this Town, & have sought & *Received* Protection from the British King, can return to it again, *without greatly endangering its Peace & Safety.*

Upon a Motion made, it was Voted, that

The Hon^{ble}. John Hancock Esq.
Nathaniel Appleton Esq.
M^{r}. Thomas Walley
M^{r}. Commissary Devens
Ellis Gray Esq.
M^{r}. Ezekiel Price
[**195.**] M^{r}. William Cooper
M^{r}. Joseph Henderson
M^{r}. John Winthrop

Be a Committee to consider and report, at the Adjournment, what they judge may be farther necessary to be done, respecting the Subject-Matter of the Warrant.

On a Motion made, it was Voted, that this Meeting stand adjourned to the first Monday in September next, 3 O'Clock P.M.

And the Meeting was accordingly adjourned,

Monday the 7th. of September 3 O.Clock P: M: Met according to Adjournment

The Committee appointed to consider and Report what may further done to prevent those Persons that have left the Town and have sought and received protection from the British King. — Reported, which Report being read and considered, was amended by the Town, and is as follows, Viz^{t}.

The Committee appointed to consider what may be further done to prevent these Persons that have left the Town, and have sought and received protection from the British King, Reported the following Vote. Viz^{t}.

Voted, that the Representatives of the Town be and they hereby are Instructed and directed to use their best endeavors in the Great and General Court at their next Sessions to have such Laws enacted as may effectually prevent a return, to the Town, or any part of the State, any Person whatever who has left this Country when in Distress, and has Saught and received protection from the King & Government of Britain

[**196.**] The Question being put, Whether the foregoing Report shall be excepted — passed in the Affirmative, unanimously also

Voted that the Town Clerk furnish the Gentlemen who Represent this Town with an Attested Copy of the foregoing Vote.

On a Motion made by a late Speach of the Patriotick Governour Livingston, relative to the inexpediency of the absent Torys, being suffered to return to these States, was read

Then the Meeting was dissolved.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, duely qualified and legally warned in publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Tuesday the 29th. Day of September Anno Domini 1778.

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read.

The Inhabitants were directed to bring in their Votes for a Moderator of this Town Meeting and the same having been brought in and sorted, it appeared that The Honourable John Hancock Esq^{r}. was chosen Moderator unanimously.

[197.] The Town being informed by General Hancock, that a Lameness prevented his Accepting the Honor done to him by the appointment, proceeded to the choice of another Person, and the Votes being brought in and sorted it appear'd that The Hon^ble^. Thomas Cushing Esq^r^. was chosen Moderator of this Meeting unanimously.

The Article in the Warrant Viz^t^. — To consider of the request of the Overseers of the Poor, that the Town would take Measures for the immediate raising a sum of Money in order to procure Provisions, and other Necessaries of Life, for the present Supply of the Poor in the Almshouse, and to carry them through the Winter" — was read and after debate had thereon, it was moved and Voted, that upon account of the thinness of this Meeting, it be Adjourned to Wednesday next 10 O'Clock in the Forenoon, also

Voted that the Bell Ringers be directed by the Selectmen, to ring the last Bells for the Adjournment of this Meeting half an Hour before the time of Meeting

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned.

Wednesday September 30^th^. 1778 — 10 O'Clock Forenoon — Met according to Adjournment.

The Article in the Warant relative to the request of the Overseers, of the Poor, for the Supply of the Alms House, again read & after considerable debate

[198.] Voted, that a Petition be preferred to the General Assembly of this State, that a Quantity of Corn now in the Hands, of the Hon^ble^. Board of War, may be disposed of to the Town, for the use of the State and Town Poor now in the Alms House; as also for a Quantity of Wood, if it should appear, that considerable of that Article has been procured by the Board of War for the use of the State; and that the Selectmen be a committee to prepare and Present said Petition — also —

Whereas it has been represented to this Town by the overseers of the Poor, that they stand in present and absolute need of a considerable Sum of Money to procure Supplies for the Support of the Poor in the Alms House this Fall and the ensuing Winter.

Voted, that it be and hereby is earnestly recommended to the Inhabitants of the Town to pay their Town Taxes to the Collectors immediately, in order that the Overseers may be furnished with a sufficient sum of Money for the purpose aforesaid and the Collectors are hereby directed to pay in the Money they may receive in consequence of this Vote to the Town Treasurer immediately, and the Town Treasurer is directed to supply the Overseers, of the Poor with a Sum not exceeding Five Thousand, five hundred Pounds, accordingly also.

Voted, that the Committee appointed to assist the Town Treasurer in borrowing Moneys for the service of the Town be desired to proceed in said business, till the several Votes of Credit are Compleated.

[199.] The Article in the Warrant, Viz^t^. What steps shall be taken in regard to a late Resolve of the General Assembly of this State, directing the Selectmen of this Town to procure four hundred and Seven Shirts, and the same number of pairs of Shoes and Stockings for the use of the Continental Army" — was read — and after some debate had thereon, it was moved, and Voted, that the further consideration of this Article be referred to the Adjournment

The Article in the Warrant Viz^{t}. — "To consider the request of the Assessors, that, an, adequate Allowance may be made them on Account of the extraordinary duty which now lays upon them, and in consideration of the high price of the necessaries of Life" was read, and after considerable debate, it was moved, that the further consideration thereof be referred to the Adjournment of this Meeting.

The Article in the Warrant relative to procuring Shoes and Stockings &c for the Continental Army was again read and considered, whereupon, it was Voted, the former Vote be reconsidered, for referring the further consideration of this Article to the Adjournment, and that the Selectmen be and hereby are directed and impowered to procure the Shirts, Shoes, and Stockings wanted for the Continental Army, Agreable to a Resolve of the General Assembly of this State for that purpose.

[200.] Voted, that this Meeting be Adjourned to Wednesday the 11th. Day of November 10. O.Clock. A: M:

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned.

Wednesday the 11th. Day of November 10. O. Clock Forenoon — Met according to Adjournment.

The Article in the Warrant — Viz^{t}. — "To consider of the request of the Overseers of the Poor, that the Town would take measures for the immediate raising a Sum of Money in Order to procure Provisions, and other Necessaries of Life, for the present supply of the Poor in the Alms House, and to carry them through the Winter" — was read —

The Collectors of Taxes were then called upon, to acquaint the Town, with the success they had met with in Collecting Money, from their respective Wards.

The Collectors having Reported, agreeable to requirement; the Town were thereby led to apprehend, that the Overseers of the Poor, were like soon to receive sufficient Moneys for the present supply of the Alms House — whereupon it was Voted, that the further consideration of that Article in the Warrant respecting the Alms House was become needless.

The Article in the Warrant Viz^{t}. — To consider the request of the Assessors, that an adequate Allowance may be made them on Account **[201.]** of the extraordinary Duty which now lays upon them, and in consideration of the High price of the necessaries of Life" — was again read, and considered — Whereupon it was moved and Voted, that the further consideration of this Matter be referred over to the Adjournment of this Meeting — also

Voted, that M^{r}. Ezekiel Price
M^{r}. Peter Boyer

Mr. Thomas Walley
Samuel Barret Esqr.
Mr. Timothy Newell

A Committee appointed at a former Meeting "to consider and Report what grants may be necessary to make the several School Masters for their Support the present year," — be desir'd to take the request of the Assessors into consideration, and Report what they Judge proper to be done thereon at the Adjournment of this Meeting

It was then moved, and Voted that this Meeting be Adjourned to Tuesday the 17th. Day of November 10. O'Clock Forenoon

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

Tuesday the 17th. Day of November 10. O·Clock Forenoon — Met according to Adjournment

The Honble. Thomas Cushing Esqr. [**202.**] Moderator of this Meeting, having Signified that he was unable to attend, by reason of Sickness Votes, by Order of the Selectmen were brought in for a Moderator Pro Temo. and upon sorting them it appeared that

The Honble. John Hancock Esqr. was chosen

The Committee appointed, "to consider what Grants may be necessary to make the several Schoolmasters, for their support the present year" — Reported as follows Vizt.

That a further additional allowance on Account of the present high price of Provisions &c. be made — Vizt.

To Mr. Samuel Hunt - - - of £250 — for ye. other 6 Months
To Mr. Samuel Holbrook - - of 140 — for - - do. - -
To Mr. James Carter - - - of 140 — for - - do. - -
To Mr. James Tileston - - of 140 — for - - do. - -
To Mr. James Bently Usher to Mr. Hunt of £125 — do. - -
and for omission the last 6 Months, — .- 10 £135

The Committee appointed "to consider of an adequate Allowance to the Assessors on Account of their extraordinary duty and in consideration of the High price of the Necessaries of Life — having attended the Assessors, examined their Business the present Year; Viued their method of doing the same, with the great number of Books, and Papers, they have wrote and gone through for that Purpose; do find that by means of the repealed Assessments, they have been obliged to make, and the regular Method they have pursued [**203.**] In making those Assessments, and the General Valuation of the Ratable Estates, of the Inhabitants agreeable to a late Law of this State: great Labour and much time have been Spent therein; and that their whole number might be employ'd in the Service.

We are therefor of Opinion That they ought to receive thirty Shillings per Day, each, during the time of their being employed in the Business of their Office, to commence from the Settlement of their last Account.

The foregoing Report having been read, and duly considered — the Question was put — Whether the same shall be accepted — Passed in the Affermative

The Report of the Committee to consider proper allowances to the Schoolmasters, having been duly considered. the Question was put — Whether the same shall be accepted — Passed in the Affermative

A Motion was made and passed that this Meeting be dissolved — And the Meeting was accordingly dissolved

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At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in Publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall, on Tuesday the 17th. Day of November Anno Domini 1778. 11. O.Clock. Forenoon

[204.] Warrant for calling the Meeting — read

The Votes for a Moderator, of this Meeting having been brought in and sorted, it appeard, that

The Honble. John Hancock Esqr. was chosen.

The Warrant for calling the Meeting "to make enquirey why some obnoxious Persons that have returned are permitted to reside here contrary to a Law of this State; and to receive from the Committee of Correspondence an account of their proceeding in the execution of said Laws and to adopt some spirited Resolves, whereby the Town may further testify to the World their determination that those sworn Enemies to our rights and Liberties, who have fled their Country and engaged as volunteers, in the cause of Tyranny and shall never return to enjoy within the Walls of liberty and independence" — was again read.

The Committee of Correspondence &c being called upon for an Account of their proceedings reported see particulars as entered at large in the fair Quarto Minnet Book of Town Meeting transacted from Page 110 to 125

On a Motion made Voted, that

Mr. Thomas Walley
Caleb Davis Esqr.
Perez Morton Esqr.

be a Committee to wait upon the Board of War, and to request their Reason for Suspending the opperation of the **[205.]** Law, so far as it respects the sending Mr. Johonnot out of this State

The Meeting was then Adjourned to three O'Clock P: M:

Three O'Clock Afternoon, met according to Adjournment.

The Committee appointed in the Forenoon, Reported that they had waited on the Board of War, who were pleased to hand them an order to be laid before the Town, a Resolve of Council and the Board of Wars, replys, and a second Resolve of Council, which are as follows Vizt.

State of Massachusetts Bay Council Chamber October 16. 1778.

Whereas it appears to this Board, that Francis Johonnot's case, now confined in the Common Goal in Boston, as appears included in the exclusion Act, passed the last Session of the General Court, is attended with sundry circumstances peculiarly favorable to him, And such as would have a great tendency to induce the Legislative Authority of this State to order his Liberation from Prison and exemption from banishment: therefore

Order that it be and hereby is recommended to the Board of War, not to send off Francis Johonnott who is now confined in Goal, in consequence of a Law that passed the last Session of the General Court, agreable [**206.**] To the direction of said Law, untill he can have opportunity to lay the State of his case before the General Court, and obtain their determination thereon —

True Copy

Att^s. JOHN AVERY Dep^y. Sec^y.

To the Hon^ble. the Council —

We the underwritten, Members of the Board of War, have received your Honours, recommendation, respecting Francis Johonnot now confined in Boston Goal on the exclusion Act, on which we beg leave to observe — that however favourable any circumstances may appear in that Gentlemans Case, they apprehend the Law the common rule of all our conduct, has nothing discretionary with us, therefore to Suspend the opperation of so positive a State, on a recommendation only, we confess we are awfully afraid

Samuel P. Savage
John Brown
War Office October 27. 1778. Thomas Walker
Eleazer Johnson
Isaac Phillips

State of the Massachusetts Bay
Council Chamber October 28^th. 1778.

On the Petition of Francis Johonnot

Whereas. M^r. Francis Johonnott has lately been confined to the common Goal in Boston as a Person included in the Act intitled. "An Act to prevent the return to this State of certain Persons [**207.**] Therein named, and others, who have left the State, or other of the United States, and Joined the Enemies thereof" — And in persuance of said Act, is to be transported by the Board of War, to some port or place, within the Dominions or in the possession of the Forces of the King of Great Britain; and whereas it appears to this Board, that the case of said Francis Johonott is attended with many circumstances peculiarly favourable to him, and which might induce the Legislative Authority of this State (if they were convened) to liberate him from Goal, and exempt him from banishment; and his conduct during his Absence, and since he fled from Great Britain has been such as that in case he should be sent out of this State, as is by said Act directed, he would be exposed to immediate distruction, liable to be apprehended as a Traitor to the King of Great Britain, and to suffer the punishment Persons of such a character are by their laws exposed to: the sending him off therefore under such circumstances would be looked upon by every considerate and Candid Man as a Species of cruelty, unworthy of Americans: therefore

Ordered, That the Prayer of this Petition be so far granted, the Board of War be and hereby are directed and required, to suspending sending of the said Francis Johonnot, in pursuance of the Act aforesaid untill he can have an Opportunity to lay the State of case before the General Court, and obtain their determination thereon

True Copy

Att^s. John Avery Dep^y. Sec^y.

[208.] On a Motion made — Voted, that

Caleb Davis Esq^r.
William Cooper
M^r. Thomas Walley
Ezekiel Price Esq^r.
M^r. Harbottle Dorr
D^r. Nathaniel Noyes
Col^o. Edward Proctor

be a Committee to consider at large the Subject matter of the Notification, for the Meeting, and to Report at the Adjournment, what they shall Judge necessary for the Town to do thereon.

It was then moved, that there might be an Adjournment to Monday next 3. O.Clock Afternoon; And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

Monday the 23^d, of November 3 O'Clock P: M: Met according to Adjournment

The Committee appointed to consider at large the subject Matter of the Notification and Reported the following Resolves &c which with some amendments, were passed by a very great majority. Viz^t.

The Town having examined into the Case and Circumstances of Cap^t. Samuel Pepper, and M^r. Francis Johonnot, came into the following Resolves. Viz^t.

[209.] *Resolved*, that it appears to this Town that the Board of War have not proceeded with M^r. Francis Johonnot, as is injourned them by the late Law of this State, having suspended the Operation of said Law so far as it respects the said Johonnot, untill the next Meeting of the General Court, by the order and requirement of the Honb^le. Council of this State; for reasons set forth in said Order

Resolved, as the Sense of this Town that the Oath of Fidelity, being administred to Cap^t. Samuel Pepper by M^r. Justice Greenleaf, is indirect violation of a law of this State, prescribing the form of said Oath, and said Pepper still remaining among us, is dangerous to the peace and Safety of this and the United States

Whereas this Town have divers times testified their indignation at those Practices, who have imbrued their hands in the Blood of their fellow Countrymen, and their determined resolution to do all in their Power to prevent their return, and at a late full Meeting of the Inhabitants, solemnly *Voted.* — "That it is the opinion of the Town, that no one of those Persons who have left this Town and have sought and received protection from the British King, can return to it again without greatly endangering its peace and safety, ' And the Gentlemen who Represent this Town in General Assembly, having agreeable to their Instruction, Moved for, and obtained a Law to be enacted, prohibiting a return to this Town, or any part of this State, any such Persons whatsoever; and it appearing **[210.]** To this Town, that said Law and others, in force are well calculated to preserve the Peace and Safety of this and the United States at a time of common danger, provided the same are carried into execution

Resolved, That the Inhabitants of this Town will exert themselves to the utmost in Supporting the Civil Magistrate in the execution of this Law, that those, professed Enemies to our Rights and Liberties, the first fomenters of our present Troubles, who have left this Country and aided the British Tyrant in his worse than Savage measures, to deprive Americans of ever thing that ought to be held dear and sacred by any People, may not return and enjoy in common, the fruits of what our immortal Patriots, have toil'd and bled to procure us, and in some future time to be again the base and cursed Instruments of British Seducers, in involving a happy People in confusion and bloodshed, in order to realise the reward, and private advantages held out to such Traitors by the Enemies of America —

And it is further Resolved, That our Representatives be and they are hereby are Instructed, to use Their influence in the General Assembly, that the Laws now in being, relative to our implacable Enemies be not only preserved in their full force and vigor, but strengthened if there should be occasion; this Town being of opinion, that no relaxation, can at this time be permitted without great hazard, not only to our peace but to the glorious Cause in which America is engaged

[211.] The Committee of Correspondence Inspection and Safety, having agreeable to requirement Reported to the Town their proceedings in the execution of the late Law of this State prohibiting the return of inimical Persons; and it appearing to the Town that they have diligently and faithfully performed the duties enjoined them by the Laws of this State

Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby are given them therefore; and that they be desired to proceed with vigilance and activity in the further discharge of the Duties of their Important trust; the Town being determined to afford them their countenance and support, while they continue to make the Laws of this State, the rule of their Conduct.

On a Motion made and Voted, That the sum of Three hundred and fifty Pounds be added to M^r^. Hunts Salary for the Year ending the first of March next. Nine hundred pounds in consideration of the high price of the necessaries of Life —

On a Motion made, Voted, that the Sum of One hundred seventy five Pounds be granted to M^r^. William Bently, Usher to the South Grammar School, in addition to the Salary already granted him ending the first of March next, in consideration of the high price of Necessaries, which will make one half the Sum which has been granted M^r^. Hunt

[212.] On a Motion, Voted, That all the proceedings of this Meeting be Published.

It was then moved, that this Meeting be dissolved

And it was accordingly dissolved

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Wednesday the 13th. Day of January Anno Domini 1779. 10. OClock Forenoon

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read

The Inhabitants were directed to bring their Votes for a Moderator of this Meeting and the same having been brought in and sorted, it appeared, that

John Brown Esq^{r}.

was chosen unanimously.

The Article in the Warrant Viz^{t}. "To consider what measures are proper to be taken by the Town, respecting the present scarcity of Bread Corn and to prevent the further monopoly and exorbitant prices of the Necessaries of Life" — was read — and after some consideration thereon — On a Motion made Voted, that the Bakers in the Town be desired to give their Attendance and inform the Town **[213.]** of the quantity of Flour and Grain, which they, and others, may now have by them —

Several of the Town Baker's, attend'd accordingly, and informed of what they knew relative to the quantity of Flour and Grain, now in the hands of the Bakers &c

On a Motion made Voted, that a Committee of thirty Six Persons, three for each Ward, be now chosen, to make thorough inquiry in their respective Wards as to the quantity of Flour and the other Necessaries of Life, now in Town — and to Report in writing at the Adjournment—

Voted the following Persons be and hereby are appointed a Committee for the Purpose aforesaid — Viz^{t}.

		Ward
	Cap^{t}. William Brown	N^{o}. 1
	M^{r}. John Sigorney	
	Cap^{t}. Silas Atkins	
Mess^{rs}.	John Lambert	N^{o}. 2
	Nathaniel Barber	
	Richard Flood	
	Cap^{t}. John Ballard	N^{o}. 3
	Cap^{t}. Elias Parkman	
	James Sherman	
	Col^{o}. Edward Proctor	N^{o}. 4
	Francis Shaw Esq^{r}.	
	Edward Edes	
[214.]	Cap^{t}. William Craft	N^{o}. 5
	M^{r}. Daniel Parker	
	Cap^{t}. William Bell	
	Cap^{t}. John Hinckley	N^{o}. 6
	M^{r}. Joseph Hall	
	M^{r}. Benjamin Sumner	

M^r. Benjamin Edes	
M^r. Robert Wier	N^o. 7
M^r. Joseph Lovering	
M^r. William Scollay	
Cap^t. Winthrop Gray	N^o. 8
Col^o. Jonathan Pollard	
M^r. Adam Colson	
M^r. Thomas Walley	N^o. 9
M^r. Joseph Shed	
Major Joseph Webb	
Deacon Robert Gardner	N^o. 10
M^r. William McNiel	
M^r. Samuel Ruggles	
M^r. Thomas Tileston	N^o. 11
M^r. John McLane	
Deacon Gibbins Sharp	
Cap^t. Robert Davis	N^o. 12
M^r. Ebenezer Dorr	

[**215.**] On a Motion made — Voted, that a Committee of Nine Persons be appointed to take up the several matters, in the Warrant for calling the Meeting, and to report at Large what Measures they apprehend it will be expedient for the Town to adopt, in order to relieve the Inhabitants under their great and growing difficulties

Voted, that John Brown Esq^r.
John Rowe Esq^r.
William Cooper
Samuel Barret Esq^r.
Ezekiel Price Esq^r.
M^r. William Foster
Cap^t. Amasa Davis
Nathaniel Appleton Esq^r.
M^r. Nathaniel Noyes
be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

On a Motion made Voted, that the several Wharfingers be desired to attend the foregoing Committee, and acquaint them with the present quantity of Wood on their respective Wharfs

Voted, that the Meeting be Adjourned to Fryday next 10. O'Clock Forenoon and the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned.

Fryday the 15th. of January 10. O'Clock Forenoon, met according to Adjournment.

The Committee of thirty Six appointed to make inquery in the several Wards, as to the quantity of Flour and other Articles, made Report in Writing [**216.**] Of the quantities of Flour and other necessaries of Life, which upon enquiry were found in the respective Wards

The Committee of Nine made a Report as follows — Viz^{t}.

The Committee appointed to take up the Several Matters contained in the Warrant, beg leave to Report, in part

That they have conversed with the several Wood Wharfingers, and find that the Wood now on hand is sold to the Continent and State; that the Coasters now demand twenty Six dollars for Wood, and that considering the high price of Hay &c. they cannot deliver their Wood under thirty six Dollars, but to prevent any further rise of that Article, for the present they have engaged to supply the Inhabitants with two hundred and fifty Cord at thirty Six Dollars in small Quantities not exceeding Six feet —

Your Committee by conferring with the Chairman of the Committee of Enquirey are informed that the present supply of Flour and Bread Corn is very scanty, therefore are of opinion that some measures must be adopted immediately to purchase a quantity of Flour and Grain for which purpose they recomend to the Town to appoint a Committee to Collect Subscriptions for Money to be advanced immediately and put into some trusty hands, to buy up a quantity of Grain and Flour, and **[217.]** have The same housed in the Granary, and sold to the Inhabitants at the discretion of the Selectmen or a Committee for that purpose, at the cost and charges, and as it may be necessary for the purchasers to go into the States of Connecticut and New York, your Committee recomend, that an application be made immediately to the General Assembly requesting a recommendation to those States for permission to transport the same into this State.

As there is now depending in the General Court a Bill to prevent forestalling and monopoly, your Committee have suspended the consideration of that Article till they can obtain further information respecting said Bill, but recomend it to the Inhabitants, not to purchase any more of the Necessaries of Life, then they have immediate occasion for in their Families; and that the present Possessors of Sugar, Molasses, Grain, Flour, Tea, Coffee, Chocolat and Rice, be desired to retail the Same in small quantities untill the Town shall take further order thereon

The foregoing Report having been considered, paragraph by paragraph, the question was put — whether the same shall be accepted — pass'd in the affermative

Voted, that the Town Treasurer be directed and impowered to receive all the Moneys which shall be borrowed by the Committee to be appointed to Collect Subscriptions, agreeable to the Report of the foregoing Committee also

[218.] Voted, that the Town Treasurer be and he hereby is directed and impowered to give his negotiable Notes carrying Interest, and payable from three to Six Months, to such Persons as shall lend the Town Moneys for the purpose of purchasing Flour. &c agreeable to the foregoing Report

On a Motion made, Voted, that the Committee to be chosen for the purpose of borrowing Moneys and purchasing Flour, and consist of Twelve Persons to be chosen by Ballot, in the Afternoon

Voted, that this Meeting be Adjourn'd to 3. O.Clock. P: M:

3 O.Clock P. M. Met according to Adjournment

The Votes for a Committee of Twelve Persons, for the Purpose of borrowing Moneys purchasing Flour &c were brought in, and being sorted, it appeared, that

John Rowe Esqr.
Mr. John White
Mr. William Bant
Mr. Gibbins Sharp excused
Samuel Barret Esqr.
Mr. Thomas Wally
Mr. Samuel Hendly Esqr.
Mr. Isaac Pierce excused
Mr. John Lucas
Mr. Thomas Russell
[219.] Capt. Amasa Davis
Mr. Daniel Hubbard

were chosen.

Voted that this Meeting be Adjourned to the 16th. Day of January Inst. and the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

Saturday 16th. January. 10. O: Clock Forenoon — met according to Adjournment

On a Motion made and carried the Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for six Persons in addition to the Committee for borrowing Money and purchasing Flour &c — the Votes being brought in and sorted, it appeared that

Mr. John Sweetser
Mr. William Foster
Major Joseph Webb
Capt. Gustavus Fellows
Mr. Samuel Breck
Mr. Henderson Inches

were chosen

The following Memorial and Address to Major General Gates, was laid before the Town, agreeable to a Motion made for that Purpose at the last Meeting — Vizt. —

To the Honble. Horatio Gates Esqr. Major General and Commander of the Army of the United States in the Eastern Department —

The Memorial and Address of the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston

[220.] The Inhabitants of the Town of Boston beg leave to represent to you Sir, that from their distresses occasioned by the present scarcity of Flour and Bread Corn, owing in a great Measure to the Embargo laid thereon in the Southern States, a large Sum of Money has been subscribed for procuring a quantity thereof, for the more immediate relief of the Poor; and not knowing but that some Flour might be spared from the Continental Stores, which have been augmented from the Magazines of this State; we pray you Sir, that you would be pleased either to give directions or recommend to the Commissary General of Supplies, the favouring us with the loan of such a quantity thereof, to be replac'd in a short Time, as you shall Judge may be spared without prejudice to the Publick Service, to which we are sensible every private or partial Interest ought to give place

The Town take this opportunity in Publick Town Meeting Assembled, to express their high satisfaction in seeing this Military Department filled by a Gentleman who thro. the favour of Providence has acquired such uncommon Glory in the Field, and whose Services has been so happily important to the General Interest of the United States and particularly to the present security of the Northern Quarter, and in whom as well as in your worthy Predecessor in this Department, we experience the amiable qualities of a good Citizen, combined with the accomplishments of the Soldier; from whence we derive the most pleasing Assurances that nothing [**221.**] on your part will be ommitted, which may conduce to the relief, the peace and good order, as well as the defence of the Town

Voted, unanimously, the foregoing Memorial and Address, be attested by the Town Clerk, and that

John Brown Esqr. the Moderator of this Meeting together with John Scollay Esqr. Samuel Austin Esqr. Jonathan Williams Esqr. Mr. Harbottle Dorr. Capt. Gustavus Fellows, Capt. John Preston Deacon Thomas Grenough, Mr. Nathan Frazier and Ezekiel Price Esqr. Selectmen and William Cooper Town Clerk be a Committee to present the same in behalf of the Town

On a Motion made, that the Inhabitants might be directed to bring in their Votes for four Persons, to be added to the Committee for borrowing Moneys and purchasing Flour &c — the Votes for four Persons were accordingly brought in and sorted when it appeared, that

Isaac Smith Esqr.
Nathaniel Appleton Esqr.
James Bowdoin Junr. Esqr.
Mr. John Barret Jur.

were chosen

On a Motion, Voted, that a Committee be appointed, for the special business of making enquirey. with respect to some Persons, who lost to the feelings of Humanity are at this Season of distress, endeavouring to enrich their little Selves by Monopolizing and forestalling the Necessaries of Life and that they Report at the Adjournment such Facts as they can ascertain

[**222.**] Voted, that Capt. John Ballard
Mr. John Kennedy
Mr. Adam Colson
Mr. Moses Grant
Mr. Thomas Uran
Mr. Joseph Lovering
Mr. Ebenezer Edes

be and hereby are appointed a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

On a Motion. Voted, that the Committee of Nine, chosen to consider what is proper to be done &c. be directed to prepare a

Vote defining the power and duty of the Committee appointed to borrow Money and purchase Flour &c — also

Voted, that said Committee of Nineteen be desired to proceed immediately in procuring Subscriptions, and purchasing such Articles as they may Judge for the Interest of the Town

Adjourned to Wednesday next 10. O: Clock Forenoon — Met according to Adjournment

The Committee of Nine, appointed to consider and Report the Steps proper to be taken under the present alarming — scarcity of Bread Corn and to prevent the further progress of Monopoly and Forestalling having Reported in part, and the Town having accepted said partial, Report, and in consequence thereof chosen a Committee of Nineteen to receive Subscriptions of Monies to be paid into the hands, of **[223.]** The Town Treasurer, for the Purpose of purchasing Flour and Grain — and the Town having referred to this Committee to consider of proper Powers and Instructions to be given to the Committee aforesaid, in order to their adopting the line of Conduct intended by the Town in their appointment; having attended that service beg leave to Report the following Commission

To the Committee for receiving Subscriptions, and purchasing Flour and Grain &c —

Gentlemen

Taking into our Serious consideration the present very partial Supply of Flour, Grain, and other Necessaries of Life, and deeply affected with the Melancholy prospect of these Misiries, which threaten us Unless, some speedy and effectual Measures are Adopted to ward them off, The *Inhabitants* of the *Town* of *Boston*, in legal Town Meeting Assembled, reposing special Confidence in your Integrity, Prudence, and Humanity, have made chose of you as *their Committee* for the sole purpose of making as early Provision as possible of the aforementioned Articles of Subsistence, and selling the same to the Inhabitants

But in order to facilitate your Proceedings in said concern, and to prevent the Artifices of Monopolizers and forestallers from counteracting your salutary purposes and Measures, we have thought proper to give and do hereby give you the following Powers and Instructions, Viz^{t}.

[224.] You are in the first place impowered and directed to open a Subscription for raising by Loan a Sum of Money adequate to the design; the same to be paid into the hands of the Town Treasurer, who is already impowered, and is hereby ordered to give his Recepts to the Subscribers for the same, payable with Interest in Six Months or a shorter term, not less than three Months, as may be by them limitted.

And you are further impowered to draw upon said Treasurer for any Sum or Sums so deposited with him, who is ordered to pay the same on demand; which sum or Sums, you are to lay out by your selves or agents in Flour and Grain, as you shall Judge most conducive to the Relief of the Inhabitants; under their present or future distresses, said Flour and Grain to be brought as soon as possible into the Town, and deposited in the Granary or such other Store, as you shall Judge most convenient under the care and Conduct of Such Person, or Persons, as you shall appoint — said Flour and Grain to be delivered out to the Inhabitants, *and to them only* under your directions at the Cost and Charges —

The Money arising from the Sale thereof you are to deposit again in the hand of the Treasurer, aforesaid, Subject to your occasional drafts, who is hereby ordered to receive and pay the Same as aforesaid. — and you are impower'd and directed to lay said Moneys, out and repay them to the Treasurer, as they shall arise from [**225.**] The Sale, in the manner prescribed, as often as the time limitted for the repayment of them to the Subscribers will admit, and the Necessities of the Inhabitants shall in your Judgement require —

The Charge of Agents Commissaries Storekeepers and Clerks, of Storage, Expresses, Transportation, and other necessary costs attending your purchases and Sales, are to be included in the price at which you shall direct the Provisions aforesaid to be sold.

You are further directed to keep proper Records of your proceedings under this Commission, and fair accounts of the Monies received and paid, and of the Provisions, purchased and delivered, and to lay the same before the Town, when called for.

And as occasion may require the interposition and assistance of the General Assembly, of this State, you are impowered and direct'd to make such application for such purposes as to you may seem proper and necessary — And finally to do all such matters and things and in such sort respecting the Premisses and the mode and Medium of purchases not heretofore dischribed and limitted, as your discretion, or that of any Seven of you which shall be a Quorum for all purposes, shall dictate

Your Committee further Report that [**226.**] They have been faivoured with a true Copy of the Bill now pending in the Great and General Court for preventing Monopolies, Forestalling &c. and flatter themselves, that if compleated according to its design and intended improvements it will answer the salutary purposes of such a Bill and render any proceedings, of this Town, except such as may be had in legal Acts of its Execution when promulgated unnecessary, and they therefor recomend a Recommitment of that Article of the Warrant calling this Meeting on which this Clause of their Report is grounded untill the Adjournment

The foregoing Report having been duly considered, it was Voted, that the same be accepted, and that a fair Copy of the Commission to the Committee, for borrowing and purchasing attested by the Town Clerk be delivered the Chairman of said Committee

The Committee appointed to present the Memorial and Address of this Town to the Honb^{le}. Horatio Gates Esq^{r}. Major General and Commander of the Army of the United States in the Eastern Department — Reported that they had presented said Memorial and Address, and received the following Reply which they now lay before the Town Viz^{t}.

Gentlemen

The Provision which has been made for the Relief of the Poor of Boston is a testimoney [**227.**] That watchfull Beneficence, which has characterised its Inhabitants — To be deprived of the Measures of Immediately forwarding the execution of their generious Designs, is a most painfull Situation, which affects me to a Degree, which their own Feelings will make them Conceive better than I can describe; but the present State of the publick Stores disables me from indulging the Pleasure, which the full gratification of their Request would afford me — I shall do every thing in my Power, as soon as the expected Supplies arrives, to Wince [*sic* ? evince] the Sincerity of this Declaration.

The Politeness with which in Town Meeting they have expressed their Satisfaction in seeing me at the Head of the Eastern Department, is to me an additional Motive for not being remiss in my Attention to prove my Self, on all Occasions a Citizen, as well as a Soldier.

Providence having been pleased to faviour that Part of the Army which the Command of which I was interested, against our Enemies, I never can forget how much I am indebted to the Intripidity and Fortitude of the Officers and Soldiers of this State, for the little Reputation I may have acquired. Gratitude and Humanity will urge me to neglect no Opportunity for relieving their distressed Bretheren, whenever it shall be compatible, with the good of the Service

HORATIO GATES

[**228.**] The Committee of Nineteen for borrowing Moneys, purchasing Flour &c. having acquainted the Town that they were like to meet with difficulties, on account of the late Resolve of Congress respecting certain Emissions, of Money whereupon agreeable to a Motion

Voted, that the consideration of this Matter be referred to the Adjournment of this Meeting, and that said Committee be desired to proceed in procuring Subscriptions, and to report the State thereof at the Adjournment.

On a Motion, Voted, the North Doors and Windows of the Market, be put up by the Selectmen.

On a Motion made Voted, that the Committee who presented the Towns Memorial and Address to General Gates, be desired to waite upon him and appoligize for the purporting [*sic* ? postponing] the Printing said Address, and the Generals Reply, for a short time, that our Enemies might [? *not*] take the advantage of being acquainted with our present Necessities.

Voted, that this Meeting be Adjourned to Wednesday Next the 27 Instant. 10. O.Clock Forenoon

Wednesday Jan^{y}. 27. 10. O.Clock A: M: Met according to Adjournment

The Committee of Nine appointed to consider of the proper Steps to be taken, relative to the Present scarcity of Flour &c. acquainted the Inhabitants, that the Bill relative, to Monopolizers, and [**229.**] Forestallers, was still pending in the General Assembly, which prevents their making Report on Matter at this Adjournment but they hoped they might be able to do it at the next Adjournment

The Committee of Nineteen appointed to borrow Moneys, and purchase Flour, &c Reported Verbeally — That they had constantly attended to the business of their appointment; and have already made sum Contracts for Flour in the Country, and are like soon to have a Supply for the Inhabitants —that they had received such assistance from General Gates as will greatly facilitate the entraducing into this State the Flour wanted — that they had already procured, Subscriptions for about Twenty thousand Pounds, Current Monies, which is to be paid immediately

The Committee of Seven appointed to make enquirey relative — to Monopolizers, and — Acquaint the Town that they were not able to make Report at this Adjournment, agreeable to the Injunctions of the Town, though they have carefully attended to the buisiness assigned them, but expect they shall be ready to make Report at the Next Meeting

On a Motion made, Voted, that this Meeting be Adjourned to Tuesday next the 2d. of February 10. OClock Forenoon

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned.

February 2d. Tuesday 10. O.Clock Forenoon Met according to Adjournment

[230.] The Committee of Nine appointed to consider of the proper Steps to be taken relative to the present scarciety of Flour &c Reported — That amendments had been made in the Monopoly Bill now pending in the General Assembly; but as it was still under the Revision of the Court, they were not now able to give their Sentiments thereon to the Town Meeting

The Committee of Nineteen appointed for the purpose of borrowing Moneys by Subscription and purchasing Flour &c acquainted the Town that they were now only able to inform them that a Person had been already dispatched to the Northward to secure some Flour, in that quarter

The Committee of seven appointed, to Enquire into the Conduct of Forestallers Engrossers and Monopolizers, and to ascertain Facts — Reported in part

That on or about the fourteenth of January last, Matthew Fairservice purchased a quantity of Rum and Sugar at Salem and Marblehead that he gave forty Pounds for the Sugar p Hundred, and thirteen Dollars p Gallon for the Rum

That about the same time John Fairservice purchased a large quantity of Sugar, for which he says he gave £45. — and £47. 10/ p hundred, and sold them for £58. — p hundred which gave him an extravagant Profit of £10 : 10/ and £13. — p hundr'd; which obliges the Poor Consumer to pay a still **[231.]** Greater price to the Retailer, by means of which engrossing your Committee look upon the Town greatly injured

That one Sampson Reed a Stranger is suspected of Engrossing and Forestalling the Necessaries of Life — that in a particular Manner he has monopolized a great quantity of Glass, for a Considerable quantity of which he did not give £30. — p Box and sold it for £100 — p Box — that he has had twenty four Boxes of Window Glass in halves, some of which he has sold for ten Shillings a Square, to the great determent of the Community

That your Committee are seeking proof against Sundry others, and shall be ready to Report at an Adjournment or some future Meeting

John Ballard

The foregoing Report having been read and Considered, it was Voted, that the same be accepted, and that the said Committee of Seven be desired to proceed in the Business assigned them by the Town and that they do Report at the next Meeting what Steps they may Judge it will be best for the Town to take with such Persons as are found guilty of Monopolizing &c. on a Motion, Voted that all matters and things which remaine unfinished at this Meeting be referred over to the next Town Meeting, then to be acted upon

Then the Meeting was dissolved.

[**232.**] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duely qualified and legally Warned, in Publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Fryday the 19th Day of February Anno Domini 1779 — 3. O'Clock P.M.

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes, for a Moderator of this Meeting, and the same being brought and sorted, it Appear'd that

John Brown Esqr

was chosen unanimously

The Committee of Seven appointed to make enquirey relative to Fore Stallers and Monopolizers — Report further — That Two of the Committee Vizt. Lovering and Edes, hearing that Mr. William Foster, had purchased, among other Articles, eight Barrels of Flour for the benefit of the Town, as he said at £15 — p and that after the Teamster had sold it to him, the said Teamster, afterwards, sold it again to a Person not an Inhabitant of this Town, for twenty two Pounds p hundred; the above Lovering, and Edes, enquiring into the case found it to be true whereupon they advised and directed the Teamster, to carry it from along side the Vessel, on board of which it was going to Mr. Fosters, Store which was accordingly done February 5th. 1779

[**233.**] The Committee hearing of One Williams, who had been an Engrosser and that a Deposition had been taken relative to the same, obtained the sight thereof which is as follows Vizt.

Boston Decemr. 29th. 1778.

I Joshua Hubbard Peruke Maker testify and declare that on Saturday last the 26 Day of December Currant, I was employed by Samuel Williams, of Roxbury, as an Assistant in disposing of his Meat in Boston Market, and was with him from the beginning of the Sale, untill he sold the whole of his Marketting, and was present when he counted the Money over in order to determine what profits he made in the Course of the Day, and heard him say, that out of four hundred and fifty Dollars, he was then possessed of, he on that Day cleared two hundred Dollars his Load that he brought with him, having cost him but one hundred and fifty Dollars, and added I have got a damned sight of Money

On the ninth of February the Committee had information, that one Dowse, and one Daniel Cane Bakers, had purchased some Flour and sold it again to other Baker's for an advanced price, to the detriment of the Poor of the Town, the Committee required their Attendance the Same Day and they accordingly come, when they weare asked the following Questions Viz^{t}.

Q — M^{r}. Dowse have you bought any Flour lately

A: Yess I have bought some Rye and Wheat [**234.**] Flour, for which I gave £17. 10/ and £18– p hundred and sold it to M^{r}. Hart Baker for £20 p cwt.

Q. Have you now practized giving a higher price for Flour than other Bakers

A. No

M^{r}. Dowse then said that M^{r}. Henry Bass come to him and offered him Flour for £20 — p cwt. for Money out of Circulation, that he purchased 3 Bills: for that Sum, and Sold it for the Same price for good Money — He further said that M^{r}. Bass asked him but £14— p cwt. a few days before.

Q. M^{r}. Daniel Cane have you bought any Flour lately —

A. Yess. I bought of M^{r}. Henry Bass Eight Barrels of Flour for £18 — p cwt and sold it to M^{r}. Hart for £20 — p cwt.

They were then both asked why they did not Bake it, their Answer was because they got a higher Profit for selling it — The Committee then desired they would refrain from such practices, and they promised they Would —

The Committee have observed the extravagant price of Fish, asked by the Fishermen at the Town Dock; and would recommend that some Step's may be taken by the Town for regulating the price of that necessary Article of Life; especially as Fishermen from the Neighbouring Towns, who have come in with their Fish and sold them at a moderate rate have had their Riggen &c cut to pieces in the Night time, and their Fish thrown into the Docks by some evil minded Persons — Upon the whole the Committee beg [**235.**] to Report, that it was their Opinion, that the Names of all who are found guilty of Monopolising the Necessaries of Life, should be held up to publick View but since the Monopolizing Act is now in force, the Committee humbly submit their Opinion to the Consideration of the Town.

JOHN BALLARD Chairman

The foregoing Report having been received and considered, Voted, that the same be accepted — also

Voted that the thanks of the Town be and are hereby given to the Committee aforesaid for their diligent and faithfull discharge of their duty

The Article in the Warrant Viz^{t}. "To make choice if the Town shall Judge proper of a Number of Persons. not exceeding Twelve to be inspectors of the Market &c agreeable to a late Act of the General Assembly of this State, Entitl'd an Act against *Monopoly* and *Forestalling* was read and considered — as also the Act afore mention'd

In a Motion made Voted, that the Town hereby express their higest disapprobation of the Conduct of the Persons Reported by the Committee of seven as Monopolizers and Forestallers, and that they will proceed with after Offenders of this kind as their Offencies may deserve, and the Laws will Justify

Voted, to proceed to the choice of a Committee of Inspection, agreeable, to the Allowance of a late Act of the General Assembly and that the Committee Consist of twelve Persons

[236.] Voted, that Capt. John Ballard
Mr. John Kennedy
Mr. Adam Colson
Mr. Mosés Grant
Mr. Thomas Uran
Mr. Joseph Lovering
Mr. Benjamin Edes
Mr. Samuel Ruggles
Mr. Richard Hunnewell
Mr. Joseph Shed
Mr. Jacob Roads
Capt. Alexander Willson

be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

Voted, that the thanks of the Town be given to John Brown Esqr. Moderator of this Town Meeting for his good Services

Then the Meeting was dissolved.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Fryday the 5th. Day of March Anno Domini 1779

Warrant for calling the Meeting read

The Honble: John Hancock Esqr. was chosen Moderator of this Meeting by a unanimous Vote

[237.] The Committee appointed by the Town the 5 of March last to apply to a proper Gentleman to deliver an Oration the 5th. of March Instant, to perpetuate the memory of the horred Massacre, perpetrated on the Evening of the 5th. of March 1770 by a Party of Soldiers under the Command of Capt. Thomas Preston of the 29th. Regiment Reported

That having met together for the purposes mentioned in the Towns Votes they had unanimously made choice of Colo. William Tuder to deliver an Oration on the 5th. of March Instt: who had according accepted of that service

The foregoing Report having been read by the Town Clerk one of the Committee, the Question was put — Whether the same shall be accepted — Passed in the Affermative

Upon a Motion made the Town took into consideration, what would be the best time to have the Oration pronounced; as also what place would be most suitable for the purpose — whereupon

Voted, that the Oration be delivered at 12 O'Clock at the Old Brick Meeting House, the Hall not being Capacious enough to receive the Inhabitants that Attended upon the Occasion — the Committee of that Society having before consented that the Meeting House, should be made use of, for said purpose

[238.] Voted, that John Lowell Esq^{r}.
Col^{o}. Nathan^{l}. Barber
Cap^{t}. John Ballard
be a Committee to waite on Col^{o}. William Tuder Esq^{r}. and acquaint him that it is the desire of the Town, that the Oration may be delivered at the Old Brick Meeting House. 12 O'Clock this Day

Voted, that the Selectmen be directed to order the several Bells in the Town to be tolled for half an Hour, beginning at one quarter of an Hour after 9. O'Clock

Voted, that this Meeting be Adjourned to the Old Brick Meeting House — at 12 O'Clock Forenoon

The Town met according to Adjournment 12. O.'Clock, at the Old Brick Meeting House

The Committee appointed to waite upon William Tuder Esq^{r}. to acquaint him with the Vote of the Town respecting the time and place for the delivery of an Oration — Reported — That said Gentleman was ready to comply with the Orders of the Town

An *Oration* to commemorate the horred Massacre of the Fifth of March 1770 — and to impress upon the Minds of the Citizens, the ruinous tendency of Standing Armes, being placed. in Free and Populous Cities &c. was deliver'd by William Tuder Esq^{r}. to a Large and Crouded Audience, and received by them with great Applause

[239.] On a Motion made and Seconded
Voted, that the Honb^{le}. John Hancock Esq^{r}.
William Cooper
M^{r}. Barth^{o}. Kneeland
Perez Morton Esq^{r}.
John Lowell Esq^{r}.
Ezekiel Price Esq^{r}.
John Scollay Esq^{r}.
William Tuder Esq^{r}. [*sic*]
be and hereby are appointed a Committee to Waite upon William Tudor Esq^{r}. and in the Name of the Town to thank him for the Spirited and elegant Oration deliver'd by him at their request, in commemoration of the horred Massacre perpetrated on the Evening of the 5th. of March 1770. by a party of Soldiers of the 29th. Regiment under the Command of Cap^{t}. Thomas Preston, and to request of him a Copy thereof for the Press.

On a Motion made and Seconded
Voted, that the Hon^{ble}. John Hancock Esq^{r}.
William Cooper
M^{r}. Barth^{o}. Kneeland
Perez Morton Esq^{r}.
John Lowell Esq^{r}.
Ezekiel Price Esq^{r}.
John Scollay Esq^{r}.
William Tudor Esq^{r}.
be and hereby are appointed a Committee to apply to a proper

Gentleman, to deliver an Oration on the 5th. of March next to perpetuate the Memory of the horred Massacre perpetrated on the Evening of the 5th. of March 1770 by a party of Soldiers of the 29th. Regiment [**240.**] Under the Command of Capt. Thomas Preston; and to impress upon our Minds, the ruinous tendency of Standing Armies, being placed, in Free and populous Cities in a time of peace; and the Necessety of such noble Exertions, in all future times: as the Inhabitants of the Town then made, whereby the Designs of the Consperators against the Publick Peace, may be still frustrated

Then the Meeting was dissolved

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 8th. Day of March Anno, Domini 1779

Prayer was made by the Revd: Mr. Clark

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read

Sundry Laws enjoined to be read at this Meeting were accordingly read

The Honble. John Hancock Esqr. was chosen Moderator of this Meeting by a unanimous Vote, and took his Seat accordingly

Mr. William Cooper was chosen Town Clerk for the Year ensuing, and took the Oath of Office for the faithfull discharge of his duty, which Oath was administr'd by Mr. Justice Greenleaf

[**241.**] The Town proceeded to the choice of Nine Selectmen, and the Votes being brought in and sorted, it appeared that

John Scollay Esqr.
Mr. Samuel Austin
Capt. Gustavus Fellows
Mr. Harbottle Dorr
Deacon Thomas Greenough
Jonathan Williams Esqr.
Capt. John Preston
Mr. Nathan Frazier
Ezekiel Price Esqr.

were chosen Selectmen for the Year ensuing

The Inhabitants brought in their Votes for a Committee of Correspondence, Inspection and Safety and upon sorting them it appeared that

Nathaniel Barber Esqr.
Mr. Ebenezer Dorr
Capt. Gustavus Fellows
Mr. John Winthrop
Capt. Amasa Davis
Mr. John Lowell
Capt. John Simpkins
Joseph Webb Esqr.
Ebenezer Hancock Esqr.
Andrew Symms Esqr.
Mr. Samuel Ruggles
Mr. Sarson Belcher

where chose a Committee of Correspondence, Inspection, and Safety for the Year ensuing

[242.] The Inhabitants brought in their Votes for Twelve Overseers of the Poor, and upon sorting them it appeared, that

The Hon^ble^. William Phillips Esq^r^.
Isaac Smith Esq^r^.
M^r^. Jonathan Mason
Cap^t^. Samuel Partridge
M^r^. Samuel Whitwell
M^r^. John White
Edward Proctor Esq^r^.
William Powell Esq^r^.
M^r^. John Sweetser Jun^r^.
Samuel Barret Esq^r^.
M^r^. Samuel Hews
M^r^. Nicholas Bowes

were chosen Overseers of the Poor for the year ensuing.

The Inhabitants brought in their Votes for twelve Wardens, and upon sorting them it appeared that

Cap^t^. Amasa Davis
M^r^. John Lucas
Maj^r^. Thomas Melvil — excused
M^r^. John Ingersol
M^r^. Simeon Eliot
M^r^. Cornelius Thayer
M^r^. Joseph Kettle
M^r^. John R. Sigourney
M^r^. John Jenkins
M^r^. Samuel Conant
M^r^. Joseph Ford
Cap^t^. Nath^l^. Fellows

were chose Wardens for the Year ensuing

[243.] The Inhabitants brought in their Votes for Sixteen Fire Wards, and upon sorting them it appeared that

John Scollay Esq^r^.
William Cooper
Edward Proctor Esq^r^.
Francis Shaw Esq^r^.
Cap^t^. John Pulling
Ebenezer Hancock Esq^r^.
Paul Reviere Esq^r^.
Andrew Syms Esq^r^.
Maj^r^. Joseph Webb
M^r^. John Winthrop
M^r^. Thomas Tileston
Cap^t^. Gustavus Fellows
Cap^t^. John Ballard
Caleb Davis Esq^r^.
M^r^. John Lowell
M^r^. Thomas Melvil

were chosen fire Wards for the Year ensuing.

The Inhabitants brought in their Votes for a Town Treasurer, and upon sorting them it appeared that

David Jeffries Esq^{r}.

was chosen Town Treasurer for the Year ensuing.

Votes for a County Treasurer brought in, and being sealed up in Town Meeting were delivered to M^{r}. Constable Bennet to be by him returned to the Court of General Sessions of the Peace at their Next Meeting

[244.] Adjourned to 3. O.Clock in the Afternoon

3 O'Clock P: M: Met according to Adjournment

Major Edward Carnes

was chosen a Surveyor of Hemp: for the Year ensuing

Mess^{rs}. John Bulfinch
Edward Ranger
Benjamin White
James Blake
John Minzey
James Rogers
Uriah Norcross
William Moor
Joseph Ballard
John Champney
John Bell
Moses May
William Todd
Nathaniel Jenkins
Joseph Butler
Thomas Uran
Abraham Howard
Moses Ayres
Henry Blaisdel
Clement Collins Jun^{r}.

where chosen Surveyers of Boards for the Year ensuing

Mess^{rs}. Uriah Norcross
Joseph Daniels
Samuel Dyer
William Clough
Nathaniel Wales

were chose Fence Viewers for the Year ensuing

[245.] Mess^{rs}. John Gray
Samuel Bangs
Isaac Bird
Moses Bradley

where chose Sealers of Leather for the Year ensuing

M^{r}. Adam Colson

was chosen an Informer of Deer for y^{e}. Year ensuing

Mess^{rs}. Joshua Pico
Job Wheelwright
Benjamin Barnard
John Owen
Samuel Heyley

Joseph Dyer
William Corbit
Israel Cook
Nathan Spear
Menassah Masters
Joseph Hammat
where chosen Cullars of Staves for the Year ensuing
Mess^{rs}. Samuel Curtis
Charles Simpson
Benjamin Wheeler
were chose Hogreeves for the Year ensuing
Mess^{rs}. George Hamlin
Isaack Tuckerman
were chose Haywards for the Year ensuing

	Ward
Mess^{rs}. John Clough	1
Nathaniel Baker	2
Nath^{l}. Hitchburne	3
[246.] Freeman Pulsipher	4
James Adams	5
Moses Bradley	6
Daniel Perry	7
Jeremiah Webb	8
Daniel Parks	9
Thomas Green	10
Thomas Wheeler	11
Ebenezer Perry	12

were chose [Scavingers] for the Year ensuing
The Selectmen
were chose Surveyors of high Wayes for the Year ensuing
Jonathan Williams Esq^{r}.
M^{r}. John Sweetser
M^{r}. John White
were chose Purchasers of Grain for the Year ensuing, and they are desired and impowered to give all needfull direction to the Keeper of the Granary, respecting the quantity of Grain to be sold, and affixing the prices thereof from time to time as occasion shall require, and the said Committee are desired and directed to cause all the Grain belonging to the Town to be ground at the New Mills near the Millbridge
Mess^{rs}. John Lucas
Edward Edes
were chose Surveyors of Wheat for the Year ensuing
[247.] Mess^{rs}. Thomas Green
John Skiner
were chosen Assay Masters for the Year ensuing
Mess^{rs}. Thomas Walley
Ellis Gray Esq^{r}.
Ebenezer Hancock Esq^{r}.
Thomas Dawes Esq^{r}.
Ebenezer Storer Esq^{r}.
be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to Audit the

Accompts of David Jeffries Esq^r. Treasurer, and also the Accompts of the Overseers of the Poor and the said Committee are impowered when they shall Audit said Accompts to allow such of the Overseers as shall Advance Money, for the Relief of the Poor, Interest on all such Sums from the Time so advanced, untill they shall have Audited said Accompts; and they are also desired to Report from time to time a State of the Treasurer, respecting Debts and Credit, and on any matters, that they may think proper —

Upon a Motion made the Question was put Whether Collectors of Taxes shall be chose seperate from Constables — Passed in the Affermative

On a Motion Voted, that

Caleb Davis Esq^r.
Ellis Gray Esq^r.
M^r. John Lowell

be a Committee to enquire respecting the payments made by the Collectors, into the State, County, and Town Treasurers, and to make Report as soon as may be

[**248.**] The Town brought in their Votes for twelve Constables, the following Persons were chosen Viz^t.

Mess^rs. John Bennet
Benjamin Clark
Daniel Parks
John Lambert excused
Samuel Sumner excused
Oliver Wiswell excused
John Jepson
Pool Spear
Thomas Allen
Thomas Green
Francis Bigelow
John Daverson

The Inhabitants brought in their Votes for Seven Assessors, and upon sorting them it appear'd that,

Deacon Jonathan Brown
Gyles Harris Esq^r.
Deacon Thomas Foster
M^r. George B. Gedney
M^r. Samuel Dyer
M^r. Samuel Ruggles declines
M^r. John Pulling
M^r. Moses May

were chose Assessors for the Year ensuing

Voted that the Assessors be and hereby are impowered, and directed to set for Abatement of such Taxes, as they shall Judge reasonable on every Day of the [**249.**] Month following the delivery of the Tax Books, to the Collectors, Lords Days excepted, and no longer, saving that they be allowed to set the two last Weeks in November for the Abatement of the Taxes of such Persons as had not an opportunity of applying in the above limited time, by reason of their being out of the State; at which time they are also allowed and impowered to abate the Taxes of such Persons as may have died Insolvent before the last day of November

On a Motion Voted, that
John Lowell Esq^{r}.
Ellis Gray Esq^{r}.
Caleb Davis Esq^{r}.
Ezekiel Price Esq^{r}.
Samuel Barrett Esq^{r}.
be a Committee to devise some way, whereby the Assessors may be enabled to levey the Taxes in a more equitable manner

The Article in the Warrant Viz^{t}.

To consider the request of the Overseers of the Poor, that some effectual Measures may be taken for the immediate supply of the Alms House with such Articles as are absolutely necessary to Support the Poor, of which they are at present almost totally destitute", was read — whereupon

Voted, that David Jeffries Esq^{r}.
Cap^{t}. Gustavus Fellows
Cap^{t}. Amasa Davis
Caleb Davis Esq^{r}.
M^{r}. Joseph Barrel
[250.] Be a Committee to take this Matter into consideration, and Report as soon as may be, what is best to be done therein

Voted, that this Meeting be Adjourn'd to Wednesday next 9. O'Clock, in the Forenoon

Wednesday the 10th. Day of March 9. O.Clock. Forenoon. Met according to Adjournment

The Town brought in their Votes for the following Persons were chose Clarks of the Market for the Year ensuing — Viz^{t}.
Mess^{rs}. Luke Baker
William Prentice
Robinson Crocker
Oliver Brewster
John Bright
Elisha Sigoney
John Coolidge
out of Town Daniel Sears
d^{o}. Cap^{t}. Gowen Brown
d^{o}. William Knox
John Procter
William Scollay

The Town brought in their Votes for one Warden in the room of one who had declined serving, when it appeared

M^{r}. Benjamin Sumner Ju^{r}. was chosen a Warden for the Year ensuing

The Article in the Warrant Viz^{t}. To consider of the Petition of the Masters of the Writing Schools, that they may be further considered with respect **[251.]** To their past Services", was read, whereupon

Voted, that Mr. Joseph Barrel
Perez Morton Esqr.
Ellis Gray Esqr.
Capt. Amasa Davis
Mr. Thomas Walley
be a Committee to take up the Schoolmaster's Petitions, and Report at the Adjournment, what allowancies they shall Judge to be Adequate for their past services

The Committee appointed to enquire respecting the Payments made by the Collectors into the Town County, and State Treasuries — Report — the State of their several payments into the respective Treasuries out of the Sums they had committed to them to Collect the past Year — as the Report on the file will more fully appear

On a Motion made Voted that
Mr. Joseph Barrel
Perez Morton Esqr.
Ellis Gray Esqr.
Capt. Amasa Davis
Mr. Thomas Walley
a Committee to whom the Writing Masters Petitions, — be also desired to Report what they shall Judge to be a suitable Premium for Collecting the Taxes the ensuing Year

The Inhabitants brought in their Votes for four Collectors of Taxes and upon sorting them it appeared that —
[252.] Messrs. Josiah Torrey
Francis Law Esqr.
Benjamin Sumner Jur.
James Thompson
were chose Collectors of Taxes for the Year ensuing.

The Article in the Warrant Vizt.

To consider the request of a number of the Inhabitants, that the North part of the Town, may be put under the same advantages as the South with respect to a Lattin Schoolmaster — was read and after debate had thereon — a Motion was made and the Question accordingly put — Whether the Town will direct the North Lattin School to be opened, and a Master appointed for the said School — Passed in the Affermative

Voted, that the Selectmen be directed to appoint a Master for the North Grammar School

The Committee appointed to consider what measures are proper to be taken for the immediate Supply of the Alms house with Necessaries, — Report'd and the same having been read, and large debate had thereon — it was moved and Voted, that the Report be recommitted

The Article in the Warrant Vizt.

Whether the Town will make Sale of any part of their Land, on the Neck and Else where, or otherwise improve the same" — was read whereupon

[253.] Voted that David Jeffries Esqr.
Capt. Gustavus Fellows
Capt. Amasa Davis

Caleb Davis Esq^{r}.
M^{r}. Joseph Barrel

be a Committee to consider said Article and Report at the Adjournment; what they Judge best for the Town to do thereon

On a Motion made Voted, that a Committee be appointed to enquire into the expenditures of the Moneys which have been granted by the Town, and what sum may be proper to be Voted for defraying the necessary Expences of the Town the ensuing Year and that they also Report the Debts that are yet outstanding

Voted, that

Thomas Dawes Esq^{r}.
M^{r}. Thomas Walley
Ellis Gray Esq.
M^{r}. Jonathan Mason
M^{r}. Samuel Ruggles

be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

Adjourned to 3 O:Clock in the Afternoon

3. O: Clock P.M. met according to Adjournment

The Committee relative to the Supply of the Almshouse, and whether it would be best to make Sale of the Towns Land on the Neck &c. Reported and the same being read —

[**254.**] Voted, that the Consideration of the Sale of Land, be referred to the Adjournment, and that the Selectmen be directed, to Notify the Inhabitants of the same — also —

Voted, that the Selectmen be directed to make enquiry relative to the Towns Title to their Real Estate —

Voted, that the further consideration of the best and most expeditious Method of Supplying the Almshouse, be referred to the Adjournment

The Committee appointed to devise some ways whereby the Assessors may be enabled to levey the Taxes on the Inhabitants in a more equitable way — Reported, that they had not as yet been able to devise any method for that purpose

On a Motion Voted, that a Committee of twelve Persons be appointed to aid the Assessors with their advice relative, to an equal levying of the Taxes, and that the choice of a Committee be referred to the Adjournment

The Committee of Nineteen for the borrowing Money and purchasing Flour &c — acquainted the Town with their proceedings

On a Motion, Voted, that the Selectmen be directed to confer with the Selectmen of the Town of Roxbury respecting the Assise of Bread &c

[**255.**] Voted, that this Meeting be Adjourn'd to Fryday the twelfth Day of March Current 10. O.Clock Forenoon

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned —

Fryday the 12th Day of March 1779 10. O:Clock Forenoon — Met according to Adjournment

The Article in the Warrant Viz^{t}. To consider what regulations may be necessary relative to Faneuil Hall and the Fish Markets

— was read — whereupon Voted, that this Buissiness of regulating said Markets, be left with the Gentlemen the Selectmen

The Selectmen appointed a Committee to confer with the Selectmen of the Town of Roxbury, relative to the Assise of Bread — Reported that they had a Conferrance with the Selectmen of that Town, who assured them of their readiness to cooperate with us with respect to the Assise of Bread

The Committee " to consider the expediency of making sale of Towns Land on the Neck and elsewere — Reported again, and the same having been considered, and debated, paragraph by Paragraph — the Question was put — Whether the Town will accept of said Report — passed in the Negative

Adjourned to Three. O.Clock in the Afternoon

3. O.Clock P: M: Met according to Adjournment

That Clause in the Warrant — Viz^t. To consider what Means shall be used for the preservation of Beacon Hill &c read, whereupon

[256.] Voted, that this Matter be left to the Selectmen. and that they be hereby authorised and directed. to persecute in Law any Person, who shall have trespassed upon said Hill

Voted, that the sum of Thirty Thousand Pounds be raised by a Tax, upon Polls and Estates within this Town for the Relief of the Poor and defreying other necessary Charges arising within the Town the ensuing year

The Article in the Warrant. Viz^t. To consider the request of the Overseers of the Poor, that some effectual Measures may be taken for the immediate Supply of the Almshouse &c — was again read and considered — whereupon

Voted, that the Sum of Six Thousand Pounds. out of the Tax of Thirty Thousand Pounds already Voted to defray the Charges of the Town the Year ensuing, be appropriated for the Sole use of the Alms house —

Voted, that the Town Treasurer be and he hereby is directed and impowered to borrow in Current Money a Sum not exceeding Six thousand Pounds, to be paid to the Order of the Overseers of the Poor, in the Alms House, for which he is to issue his negotiable Notes, payable to the Lenders, on Interest in currant Money out of the present Tax, no part of said Sum to be made use of for any other purpose — also

[257.] Voted, that the Gentlemen the Overseers of the Poor be a Committee to procure Subscriptions for the Six thousand Pounds, to be appropriated out of the present Tax for the use of the Alms House, for which the Treasurer is to Issue his negotiable Notes, carrying Interest, payable to the Lenders in Current Money out of the present Tax

The Committee appointed to consider the Petitions of the Schoolmasters and Report Meet Sums for their past Services up to the first of this present Month March the following Sums Viz^t.

To M^r. Samuel Holbrook, a Sum which with what has been already granted the past year will make up Six hundred Pounds for himself, One hundred Pounds for his Usher, and thirty Pounds in consideration of his House Rent

To M^{r}. John Tileston the Same Sums

To M^{r}. James Carter, the same Sum except the thirty Pounds, his House being found by the Town

The Committee are sorrey to observe the *Just* complaints of the Schoolmasters, on account of their not receiving in season the sums which are granted them, and recommend it to the Town, that Some method may be taken, that they be timely paid in future or at least Interest may be allowed them for any difficiency to enable them to pay on Interest for what they are Obliged to borrow for their dayley Support

J. BARREL p order

[258.] Adjourned to next Monday Week 10 O,Clock —

Monday 22^{d}. March. 10. O.Clock Forenoon, met according to Adjournment

The Hon^{ble}. John Hancock Esq^{r}. Moderator of this Meeting having acquainted the Town. that he was prevented by Sickness from Attending his duty

The Inhabitants were thereupon directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for a Moderator, during the absence of Col^{o}. Hancock — and the Votes being accordingly brought in and sorted, it appeared that

Ezekiel Price Esq^{r}.

was chosen Moderator of this Meeting Pro. Tem:

Voted that the consideration of Schoolmasters, Salaries, and all other Salaries and Grants, be referred over to next May Meeting

The Article in the Warrant Viz^{t}. "To consider what further Method can be taken for our Relief under the present extravagant prices of the Necessaries of Life" — was read — whereupon

Voted that the further consideration of this Article be referred to the Ajournment

The Article in the Warrant — Viz^{t}. — To consider whether Measures may not be adopted to furnish the Inhabitants with Vegitables the ensuing Year, at a Much less expence then there being supplied therewith by the Neighbouring Towns — was read whereupon

[259.] Voted, that M^{r}. Isaac Pierce
M^{r}. Enoch Brown
M^{r}. Samuel Brick
Cap^{t}. Job Prince
M^{r}. John Lowell
M^{r}. Cornelius Thayer
M^{r}. Andrew Oliver

be a Committee to take this matter into consideration. and to Report at the Adjournment what they Judge best for the Town to do thereon — M^{r}. Benjamin Sumner, M^{r}. Oliver Wiswell and M^{r}. John Lambert Ju^{r}. having requested the Town that they might be excused from serving as Constables, into which Office they had been chosen — they were accordingly excus'd

The Inhabitants brought in their Votes for four Constables, and upon sorting them it appeared that

Messrs. John Kennedy ——— excused
Benjamin Cudworth
Robert Wier
John Fullerton

were chose Constables for the Year ensuing

The Inhabitants brought in their Votes for one Constable, wherein it appeared that

Mr. John Wells

was chosen Constable for the Year ensuing

Colo. Proctor having requested the Town to be excused from the Committee appointed to Aid the Assessors — he was accordingly excused.

[**260.**] The Article in the Warrant — Vizt. To consider whether any Measures shall be taken to prevent Horses going at Large on the Common" — was read — Whereupon

Voted, Capt. Samuel Partridge
Edward Procter Esqr.
Mr. John Lowell
Mr. Moses Grant

be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid, to Report at the Adjournment

The Article in the Warrant — Vizt. Whether the Town will direct the Selectmen to receive the portion of Fire Arms assigned the Town, and now lying in the hands of the Honble. Board of War — was read — whereupon Voted, that the Town Treasurer be directed to call upon the Committee for purchasing Arms, for the Moneys left in their hands

On a Motion Voted, that the aforegoing Vote, be reconsidered, and that

John Marston
Joseph Barrel
Capt. Jacob Williams
Mr. Martain Brimmer
Capt. Joseph Webb

a Committee appointed Last Year for the purchase of Small Arms, be desired to apply to the Board of War for the purchase of so many of the Towns proportion of small Arms Assigned by the General Assembly, as they have Money in their Hands, and may arise by the further sale of Small Arms to the Inhabitants of this Town and them only — also

[**261.**] Voted, that Edward Procter Esqr.
Colo. Jabez Hatch

be added to the Committee

Adjourned to Wednesday 31 Day of March Currant 3. O:Clock, P. M:

Wednesday 31st. of March 1779. 3. O:Clock P: M: Met according to Adjournment

General Hancock in the Chair

The Committee appointed to consider what was proper to be done to prevent Horses going at large on the Common — Reported

That it is their Opinion the Fine for Horses going at large be aughmented to forty shillings which they think will be sufficient to prevent such practises in future, and that application be made to proper Authority for the above purpose all which is humbly Submitted

SAM: PARTRIDGE Chairman

The foregoing Report being read, after some debate had thereon, a Motion was made, that the further consideration of this Report be referred

The Committee appointed to take into consideration whether Measures may not be adopted to furnish the Inhabitants with Vegitables the ensuing Year at a much less expence than there being supplied therewith by the Neighbouring Towns — beg leave to Report, that it is their Opinion, it will be much for the Interest of the Town, to have as much of the Waste Land in this Town as may be **[262.]** Improved for raising Vegitables for the Inhabitants more especially a certain Tract of Land at West Boston containing Twenty Acres or upward belonging to the following Proprietors, who have consented the same shall be improved for the above purpose free of Rent Viz^t. Cap^t. Job Prince. M^r. Hezekiah Blanchard, the Heirs of James Allen, the Heirs of John and Thomas Leaverett. M^r. Andrew Symms, M^r. Clough, M^r. Harris, D^r. Sprague. M^r. Edward Carnes, and M^r. Sumner; the Committee are therefore of Opinion that the Town be at the expence of inclosing said Lands, and that some suitable Person or Persons be appointed to carry the same into execution, and also to Lease out the same to such Persons as will cultivate the said Land, agreeable to his or their contract

JOB PRINCE Chairman

The foregoing Report being read and considered

Voted, that the same be accepted and that the Committee be requested and impowered to carry their said Report into execution

The Town took into consideration the Vote of the Town passed the 12 Ins^t. appointing a Committee of twelve Persons to aid the Assessors with their advice relative to an equal levying of the Taxes, whereupon

Voted, that M^r. Samuel Breck, and the other Gentlemen, chosen be excused from that service; and that the Town Clerk be directed to erase the Minutes of that Appointment, from the Minute Book

[263.] The Inhabitants brought in their Votes for one Constable, and upon sorting them it appeared that

M^r. John Kennedy

was chosen a Constable for the year ensuing

The Article in the Warrant — Viz^t. To consider whether there shall be a Provision of the By Laws of the Town, and such others agreed upon as shall be thought Necessary," was read — whereupon

Voted, that Ezekiel Price Esq^r.
William Tudor Esq^r.
John Lowell Esq^r.
Joseph Greenleaf Esq^r.
Perez Morton Esq^r.

be and hereby are appointed a Committee for that purpose aforesaid

On a Motion Voted, that the Report of the Committee, relative to Horses going at Large, on Common, be referred to the foregoing Committee

The Committee appointed to consider and Report, what they apprehend would be a suitable Premium to be allowed the Collectors for gathering in the Taxes, Reported, that in their Opinion Nine pence on the Pound, on the whole sum, they may Collect, will be an allowance adequate for their Services — whereupon, after some debate, it was moved and Voted, that the further consideration of this matter be referred to May Meeting

[264.] Voted, that the Sum of Two thousand Pounds out of the Tax of thirty Thousand Pounds already Voted, to defrey the Charges, of the Town the Year ensuing, be appropriated, for the Supply of the Families of the Non Commissioned Officers and Soldiers in the Continental Army

Voted, that the Town Treasurer be and he hereby is directed and impowered to borrow in Current Money a Sum not exceeding two Thousand Pounds, to be paid to Cap^t^. John Simpkins the Commissary to supply the Families of the Continental Soldiers in this Town for which he is to issue his Negotiable Notes Payable to the Lenders on Interest in Current Money out of the present Tax, no part of said sums to be made use of, for any other purpose — also

Voted, that Cap^t^. John Simpkins be a Committee, to procure Subscriptions for the loan of two thousand Pounds to be appropriated out of the present Tax, for the Supplies of the Families of the Continental Soldiers, for which the Treasurer is to issue his Negotiable Notes, carrying Interest payable to the Lenders in Current Money out of the present Tax

Voted, that all Matters and Things which remain unfinished be referred over to the General Town Meeting in May next, then to be considered and acted upon

Then the Meeting was dissolved

[265.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in publick Town Meeting the 5th. Day of May Anno Domini 1779

Prayer was made by the Rev^d^. D^r^. Mather

The Precipt and Warrant for calling the Meeting — read

Sundry Laws read —

The Town having determined to choose Seven Persons to Represent them in the Great and General Court or Assembly to be held at the Town House in Boston upon Wednesday the 26 Day of May Current — The Inhabitants were accordingly directed to withdraw and bring in their — Votes, for Seven Representatives and then it was declared by the Selectmen that no Votes will be received, but such as are unfolded, and that they propose the Poll shall be closed at 12 O.Clock

The Votes, being brought in for Seven Representatives, the Number of the same were found to be four hundred, thirty one ; — and upon sorting them it appeared that the following Persons only were chose — Viz^t^.

The Honble. Samuel Adams Esqr. — 383
The Honble. John Hancock Esqr. — 431
Caleb Davis Esqr. — 431
[266.] resigned Gustavus Fellows — 335
Mr. Thomas Walley — 241
William Tudor Esqr. — 372

A Motion made that this Meeting be Adjourned to three. O.Clock P: M: for the choice of one Representative — and the Question being put in the Affermative; and the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

3. O.Clock: Met according to Adjournment —

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw, and bring in their Votes, for one Representative, and that the Poll be closed at 4. O.Clock

The Votes being brought in and sorted it appeared, that the Number of Votes were three hundr'd twenty Eight, and that

Thomas Daws Esqr.

was chosen

Seven Representatives having been chosen as, Voted, by the Town; a motion was made and after some debate carried, that a Moderator be now chosen, that the Town may proceed in a legal way, to consider and determine upon that Article in the Warrant which relates to the Constitution

The Inhabitants having withdrawn and brought in their Votes, for a Moderator

It Appeared that

The Honble. John Hancock Esqr.

was chosen

[267.] The Article in the Warrant relative to a new Constitution and Form of Government having been read a Motion was made, that this matter be considered at the Adjournment, and that the Selectmen, be directed to send out printed Notifications to the Inhabitants of said Adjournment and the buissiness to be transacted — and the Question being accordingly put — Passed in the Affirmative

Voted, that this Meeting be Adjourned to Monday next. 11. O'Clock Forenoon

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned, the Town having first chosen General Hancock, as Moderator to provide, when the other buissiness of the Warrant is to be transacted, which, was Adjourned to 3. O.Clock of said Day

Monday the 10th. Day of May, 11 O:Clock Forenoon, Met according to Adjournment

Capt. Gustavus Fellows chosen one of the Representatives, on Wednesday last having sent in writing his resignation, which was read to the Town — a Motion was made, that Mr. Hancock should leave the Chair, that the Selectmen proceed to the Choice of one Representative in the room of Mr. Fellows — and the same being Voted, another Motion was made and carried. Vizt. That the Choice of Representative be referred to 3 O'Clock Afternoon

It was then declared by the Selectmen that no Votes will be then received, but such as are unfolded, and that they propose [**268.**] The Poll should be closed at 4. O.Clock

General Hancock having again taken the Chair, the Article in the Warrant relative to a new Constitution or form of Government was read and considered whereupon

Voted, that a Committee of five Persons be appointed to consider and Report to the Town their Opinion on the Second Question proposed in the Resolve of the General Court. and inserted in the Warrant

Voted, that John Lowell Esq^r.
Perez Morton Esq^r.
Joseph Barrel Esq^r.
Ellis Gray Esq^r.
Samuel Barrett Esq^r.
be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

The Votes on the First Question in the Resolve having been brought in and counted, the Number was found to be Three hundred fifty one, and upon examining them it appeared that they were all Yeas

The Town having been unanimous in answering the first Question in the Affermative the Committee on the second Question, were called upon for their Report, and the same being given in, and read — it was moved and Voted, that the further Consideration of this Question be referred to 3. O: Clock P.M.

Adjourned to Three O O.Clock. in the Afternoon

[**269.**] 3. O.Clock Afternoon met according to Adjournment

The Votes being brought in for one Representative, and sorted, the numbers was found to be one hundred ninety two, and that
M^r. Samuel Austin
was chosen by a very great majority

The choice of Representatives being over General Hancock took the Chair

The Committee appointed to consider and Report to the Town their Opinion on the second Question in the Resolve of the General Court, respecting a Constitution — Report that the following Vote, be passed if agreeable to the Town Viz^t.

That We will impower our Representatives to Vote for the calling a State Convention, provided it shall appear to them on examination, that a Major part of the People present and Voting at the Meeting called in the manner and for the purposes aforesaid shall have answered the first Question in the Affermative; under the Restrictions following — Viz^t. — That the Convention be so formed as to contain an equal Representation of the Several parts of the State, and that our Representatives be impowered to agree to a Constitution on no other Terms

The foregoing Report having been read and considered, the Question was put — Whether the same shall be accepted — Passed in the Affermative

[**270.**] The Article in the Warrant which respects a new Constitution or form of Government having been acted upon; the

Town proceed to the Considerations of the other matters mintained in the Warrant

The Hon^{ble}. John Hancock Esq^{r}. Moderator

The Article in the Warrant. Viz^{t}. To consider what method shall be taken for the immediate raising a sufficient Sum of Money for the Commissary appointed to supply the Families of the non Commissioned Officers and Soldiers, who have engaged in the Continental Army, in conformity to a Resolve of the General Court — was read and considered, whereupon

Voted, that the Sum of Four Thousand in addition to the two thousand Pounds, already granted, out of the Tax of thirty thousand Pounds already Voted, to defray the Charges of the Town the ensuing year be appropriated for the Supply of the Families of the non Commissioned Officers and Soldiers in the Continental Army, also

Voted, that the Town Treasurer be and he hereby is directed and impowered to borrow in Current Money a Sum not exceeding four Thousand Pounds in Addition to the two thousand already granted, to be paid to Cap^{t}. John Simpkins appointed Commissary to Supply the Families of the Continental Soldiers in this Town, for which he is to issue his negotiable Notes payable — to the lenders on Interest in Current Money out of the present Tax **[271.]** Or the fund provided by the General Court for the purpose aforesaid, no part of said Sum to be made use of for any other occasion — also

Voted, that M^{r}. Samuel Brick
M^{r}. Henderson Inches
M^{r}. William Powell
M^{r}. Edward Payne
M^{r}. Stephen Higginson
M^{r}. William Foster
M^{r}. Thomas Hitchburne

be a Committee to procure Subscriptions for the two thousand and four thousand Pounds to be appropriated out of the present Tax, for the supply of the Families of the Continental Soldiers for which the Treasurer is to issue his Negotiable Notes, carrying Interest, payable to the Lenders in Current Money out of the present Tax, or the fund provided by the General Court for the purpose aforesaid

The Article in the Warrant Viz^{t}. — To consider, whether Instructions shall be given to the Representatives that may be chosen — was read — whereupon

Voted, that John Lowell Esq^{r}.
Nathaniel Appleton
William Cooper
Ellis Gray Esq^{r}.
Ebenezer Hancock Esq^{r}.

be a Committee to draught Instructions for the Gentlemen chosen to Represent this Town in the next General Court and that they Report the same at the Adjournment of this Meeting

[272.] On a Motion made Voted, that this Meeting be Adjourned to Monday next being the Seventeenth Day of May Inst 10. OClock in the Forenoon

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

Monday the 17 Day of May 10. OClock Forenoon, met according to Adjournment

The Hon^ble^. John Hancock Esq^r^. Moderator of this Meeting, having acquainted the Town that he could not attend by reason of indisposition of Body; a Motion was made and carried that a Moderator Pro. Tem^o^. be now chosen by a Hand Vote —

Colo. Thomas Dawes

was chosen Moderator Pro. Tem^o^. and took his Seat Accordingly

A Motion was made, that the Report of the Committee to Audit the Accompts of M^r^. Treasurer Jeffries, be now read and acted upon; but it being objected to on account of so few of the Inhabitants being present, the Motion was passed over

A Motion was made, that this Meeting for the foregoing reason, be Adjourned to Tuesday the 18 Day of May, Three O.Clock in the Afternoon

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

[273.] Tuesday May 18^th^. 3. O.Clock Afternoon, met according to Adjournment

The Committee to prepare a Draught of Instructions were called upon to make report — whereupon a Motion was made that the Committee may be filled up

Voted that David Jeffries Esq^r^. be one of the Committee to prepare a Draught of Instructions for the Representatives of this Town in General Assembly

The Article in the Warrant Viz^t^. — To consider what regulations are necessary to be made respecting Faneuil Hall Market, was read, and after debate had thereon

Voted, that the Gentlemen Selectmen be directed to give Orders that the Doors of Faneuil Hall Market, be hung as usual — also

Voted, that the Selectmen be directed to see that the terms upon which the Butchers hold and improve the Stalls in Faneuil Hall Market, are fully complied with

The Committee appointed to Draught Instructions for the Gentlemen chosen to Represent this Town in General Assembly the ensuing Year — Reported, a Draught which having been amended is as follows — Viz^t^.

[274.] To the Hon^ble^. Samuel Adams Esq^r^.
Hon^ble^. John Hancock Esq^r^.
Caleb Davis Esq^r^.
M^r^. Thomas Walley
William Tudor Esq^r^.
Thomas Dawes Esq^r^.
Samuel Austin Esq^r^.

Gentlemen

Notwithstanding the Evidence of the Town have given of their confidence in your integritys and abilities by choosing you to represent them in the General Assembly, at this critical and important conjuncture, they mean however to exercise a right of giving you such Instructions from time to time as they shall Judge the exigence of affairs may require

We trust that the Independance of this and our Sister States of America is under Providence secure from the force and insidious designs of our Enemies, yet we are still engaged in a War with great Britain, whose malice hightned by shagrin will we doubt not prompt them to contrive and make use of every Method to distress us, we Instruct you to use your early efforts to procure and keep in the field, our full proportion of the Continental Army, that a speedy and honourable end may be put to this bloody and distructive thô. Just and necessary War, and that you do not suffer yourselves to be diverted from this object on any Account whatsoever

[**275.**] Being also sensible that many secret Enemies still lurking among us, and are plotting our ruin, we expect you will with the uttermost vigilance guard us against their base and treachourous designs, and in order to effect this that you use all your influence in the General Assembly, that the Resolves of Congress, and the Law of this State provided for our securiety be carried into full execution, and such other Laws, enacted as may appear necessary to ensure this end

At a legal Town Meeting Convened for the Purpose of considering and determining upon the Questions proposed in a Resolve of the late General Assembly, we have by a Vote impowered you to agree to the calling a State Convention for the sole purpose of framing a new Constitution or form of Government; upon this express condition that the Convention so called be upon some equal plan, and althô. in our opinion, as many Persons will have a Voice in this Matter as would were the War at an end, we cannot however but express our wishes, that if it should be found practicable, our Bretheren in the Army may also have a voice in approving or disapproving any Constitution that may be formed before the same be finally established

With respect to the best method of calling this Convention, it is our sentement that equality of Representation is an indispensaible requiset, and that in order to avoid so numerious an Assembly as will take place if each [**276.**] Town and District send Delagates in proportion to their numbers; we would therefore recomend that the General Assembly fix upon a Compotant number, and call upon the Several Counties to send Delagates to form this Convention in proportion to their respective numbers, and that the several parts of the Counties may be equally and fairly represented, that the Countys be divided for this purpose into Districts out of each of which the Delagates shall be chose in proportion to the numbers in each District

And you are to move for an Act of the General Assembly, to vacate the Seat of such Members of either House of Assembly, as may be Elected Members of the Convention for forming a Constitution

We would further recommend that such Grants and allowances be made the Officers and Servants of this State as may be adequate to their respective servicies, taking due care that no partial iniquality should take place with respect to such Grants

We readily Submitt all other matters of publick moment which may come before you. and require your Consideration, to your own fairness and discretion, and trust that your exertions will be such as shall give the approbation of your Fellow Citizens

John Lowell,
p Order

[**277.**] The foregoing Draught as amended having been read and considered, the Question was put — Whether the same shall be axcepted as Instructions for our Representatives — passed in the Affermative

Adjourned to Thursday next 3. O.Clock. P: M

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Tuesday the 18th Day of May. 3. O.Clock P: M.

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read

The Town having Voted, to choose a Moderator, to manage the buisiness of this Meeting by a Hand Vote

Samuel Austin Esqr. was chosen but declined serving after which Mr. Thomas Walley was chosen, but also declining, a number of other Gentlemen were chosen, and declined serving, after which

Thomas Daws Esqr. was chosen and took his Seat as Moderator

The Article in the Warrant — Vizt. To consider of some Method to insure the Collectors to receive the Moneys out of Circulation in discharge of the State Tax lately Assessed, as the Rate Bills are not [**278.**] Like to be delivered to the Inhabitants before the expiration of the time limitted by Law for the receiving said Moneys by the State Treasurer — was read and duly considered — Whereupon the following Vote passed — Vizt.

Whereas it appears to this Town, that their is no probability of the Rate Bill being deliver'd to the Inhabitants, before the time by Law expires for receiving the two Emissions of Continental Money out of Circulation into the State Treasury; and whereas many of the Inhabitants have reserved Moneys of said Emissions for the payment of their Taxes, it is therefore

Voted, that the several Collectors in this Town be and they hereby are directed and impowered immediately after given Bonds to the approbation of the Selectmen to proceed and apply to the Inhabitants who are Taxable in their respective Wards, and receive from them such Sums of Money as they may choose to pay, giving them Receits for the same to be deducted from their future Taxes; and the said Collectors are further directed to pay into the State Treasurey all the Moneys they may so receive before the 28 Day of May Inst. out on account of the late State Tax —

That Article in the Warrant — Vizt. To consider what disposition shall be made of the Money arising from the Sale of damaged

Fire Arms [**279.**] Now in the Hands of the Committee for purchasing Arms for the Militia of this Town "— was read — whereupon

Voted, that this Money be paid by said Committee into the Treasury; and that David Jeffries Esq^{r}. the Town Treasurer be directed to pay the same to Cap^{t}. John Simpkins Commissary to enable him to provide for Soldiers Families agreeable to the requirement of the General Assembly by a late Resolve

Voted, that the thanks of the Town be and hereby are given to Thomas Daws Esq^{r}. for his good servicies as Moderator of this Meeting

Then the Meeting was dissolved

Thursday 3. O.Clock P.M Met according to Adjournment of May Meeting

The Report of the Committee relative to the Collectors of Taxes Premium, or allowance of Collecting the Taxes, was again read and taken up after some debate, a Motion was made that said Report be recommitted — and the Question being put passed in the Affermative — also

Voted, that M^{r}. Samuel Ruggles be added to said Committee in the Room of M^{r}. Ellis Gray who is absent

The Committee appointed to consider of a Meet allowance to the Collectors of Taxes for their trouble in Collecting — Reported the following Vote, which was accepted by the Town — Viz^{t}.

[**280.**] Voted, that the Sum of One Shilling on the Pound, be and hereby is allowed to the Persons chose Collectors of Taxes the Year ensuing, for all which Sums they shall Collect; provided they pay the same into the severell Treasuries within four Months, and nine pence on the Pound on all such other Sums as they shall have so paid into the Treasurer on or before the second Monday in March 1780 — This Premium as above expressd, appears to be Just and equitable and an ample allowance to the Collectors to encourage them to discharge their Duty with dilligence and Fidelity provided also that each of said Collectors give Bond with sufficient Sureties to the Satisfaction of the Selectmen for the faithfull discharge of their Duty in said Office, and complying with this Vote

The Committee appointed to examine the Accounts of David Jeffries Esq^{r}. Town Treasurer have attended that service and find the same right Cast and well vouched, in which he chargeth himself with the Sundry Rents and other Incomes of the Town, Amounting to Twenty five thousand five hundred and Seventy Pounds, eight Shillings and Six pence half penny

And the Said Treasurer discharges himself by Abatements made the Collectors amounting to Two Thousand eight hundred and Forty four Pounds one Shilling and ten Pence — by Draughts made by the Selectmen amounting to eleven thousand nine hundred and seven Pounds sixteen shillings and ten Pence, of which he has paid eight thousand one hundred and Eighty Seven pounds thirteen Shillings and ten Pence — [**281.**] By Draughts made by the Overseers of the Poor, amounting to nine Thousand Six hundred and Seventy Seven Pounds four Shillings and Six pence of which he has paid Seven thousand nine hundred and thirty five Pounds nineteen Shillings and eleven Pence — Also by sundry Sums paid for Interest amounting to Four thousand and twenty eight Pounds, Seventeen Shillings and Six Pence — The Debit of Town Treasury in the Treasurers Books Amounts to thirty Thousand four hundred and fifty one Pounds five Shillings and two Pence half Penny

The Committee have inspected said Draught in every particular manner, and every other branch of Publick charge, amounting in the whole as above to thirty Thousand four hundred and fifty one Pounds five Shillings and two Pence half Penny as by Account of Town Treasury in the Treasurers Books, ballance whereof being four thousand eight hundred and eighty Pounds sixteen Shillings and eight Pence is carred to the Debit of new Account

Which Report being read — Voted, that the same be and hereby is accepted

A Letter of the Barrack Master General to the Selectmen of the Town, praying leave to erect some Barracks, on such part of the Towns Land, as shall be thought most suitable and Convenient, was laid before the Town, when it appeared to be the sense of the Town that the Selectmen confir with General Heath, and purpose a Slip of Ground on Fort Hill for the purpose aforesaid

[282.] The Town took up the consideration of a proper allowance to the Several Schoolmasters whereupon a Motion was made and carried that a Committee be now chosen to hear the Several Schoolmasters, and Ushers, and the Town Treasurer, and to Report, what Sum they may Judge to be adequate to their servicies for the present Year, at the Adjournment of this Meeting, if theire should be one; or at the next Town Meeting

Voted, that Ezekiel Price Esq^r.
M^r. Thomas Walley
M^r. Joseph Barrel
Samuel Barret Esq^r.
M^r. Nicholas Bowes
be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

on a Motion made

Voted, that all matters, and Things which remain unfinished be referred over to the next Town Meeting that may be called and acted upon —

Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be given to Thomas Daws Esq^r. the Moderator of this Meeting for dispatching the buissiness thereof

Then the Meeting was dissolved.

[283.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Fryday the 9^th. Day of July Anno Domini 1779 10. O.Clock — Forenoon

Warrant for calling the Meeting read

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for a Moderator; and the same having been brought in and sorted, it Appeared that

The Hon^{ble}. Samuel Adams Esq^{r}. was chosen Moderator of the Meeting

The Article in the Warrant Viz^{t}.

To impower the Committee of Correspondence Inspection and Safety and such other Persons as the Town may think proper to be Joined with them, to meet the Convention at Concord on the 14 Instant for the purpose of carrying into effect, the Measures Congress have recommended in their late Address" — was read; and after large debate had thereon the Question was put — Viz^{t}. — Whether the Town will now proceed to the choice of a Committee to meet in Convention at Concord on the 14th. of July Currant, with such Committies as may be sent by other Towns, for the purpose of carrying into effect such Measures, as have been recommended by Congress in their late Address; and the Resolutions and proceedings of the People of this Town in consequence of said Address at their Meeting on the 17th. of June last — Passed in the Affermative

[284.] Voted, that this Committee consist of Seven Persons

Voted that this Committee be chosen by Ballot

The Inhabitants having brought in their Votes for a Committee, and the same being sorted, it appeared that

M^{r}. Samuel Ruggles
Cap^{t}. Amasa Davis
M^{r}. Thomas Walley
Ellis Gray Esq^{r}.
M^{r}. Stephen Higginson
Samuel Barret Esq^{r}.
Cap^{t}. John Ballard

were chose by a great Majority

The Article in the Warrant Viz^{t}. "What — Measures are proper to be taken by the Town for the Security of the Same when so many Prisoners of War are going at large — was read — whereupon

Voted, that M^{r}. Joseph Barrel, & General Hancock be a Committee to take this Matter into Consideration, and Report what they may Judge most expedient to be done thereon

Adjourned to 3 O.Clock in the Afternoon

3. O.Clock P: M: Met according to Adjournment

The Committee appointed to consider what Measures are most expedient relative to Prisoners going at large in this Town — Reported verbally — And the Town having considered of the same came into the following Votes — Viz^{t}.

[285.] Voted, the Committee of Correspondence Inspection and Safety be requested, instantly to apprehend and secure every Prisoner who has not the benefit of a Parole in this Town; and to make early and suitable representation to the Hon^{ble}. the Council of this State; representing the inexpediency and danger of Prisoners being at large in this Metropolis at any time, during the continuance of this War, but more particular at the present

Voted, that every Inhabitant of this Town be and hereby is earnestly called upon to Report to the Committee of Correspondence Inspection and Safety, the Names of any Persons whose Characters are Suspicious; that a Matter of so much consequence to the Safety of this Town, may be properly and effectually attended to

M^{r}. Ruggles chosen a Member of the Committee of Convention having desired to be excused by the Town from serving on that Committee — the Question was put — Whether the Town will excuse him — passed in the Negative

The Committee chosen to hear the Several Schoolmasters, and Ushers, as also the Town Treasurer and Report at this Meeting what Sums they Judge to be adequate to their services for the present Year; having heard the said Schoolmasters, Ushers and Treasurer & considered what Sums may be adequate to their Servicies — Report that by the high price of Provisions and all the necessary Articles of Life, the Schoolmasters, Ushers and the Town Treasurer, for Six months only, to commence in March last receive the Sums following — Viz^{t}.

[286.]	M^{r}. Samuel Hunt - - - - - -	£1000
	M^{r}. William Bentley - - - - -	650
	M^{r}. Samuel Holbrook - - - - -	640
Including House Rent	M^{r}. John Tileston - - - - - -	700
Including d^{o}. -	M^{r}. James Carter - - - - - -	600
	Mr. Holbrook the Usher - - - -	300
And that the Town Treasurer receive for six Months to commence in March last - - - - - - - - -		600

The foregoing Report having been considered, and amended, the Question was put — Viz^{t}. — whether the same shall be accepted — Passed in the Affermative

On a Motion, Voted, that the aforenamed Committee on Grants, be desired to make enquiry into the past Servicies of the Town Treasurer, and make Report at the Adjournment what Sum they shall Judge to be adequate thereto

The following Persons were chose Clerks of the Market for the ensuing Year in the Room of Cap^{t}. Gowen Brown, William Prentice, William Knox and Daniel Sears who are out of Town

Mess^{rs}. Benjamin Austin Ju^{r}.
William Dall Jun^{r}.
William Dennison
John Joy

On a Motion Voted, that the Selectmen be directed to publish an Extract from the Law relative to Strangers; and that they use their utmost endeavors, that an Act of such consequence to this Town, be most strictly observed

[287.] Voted, that the foregoing Vote calling upon the Inhabitants to give in the Names of Persons suspected to be inimical to the Cause of America to the Committee of Correspondence Inspection and Safety be also published in the News Papers

Adjourned to Monday the 26th. Day of July Instant 10: O: Clock before Noon

And the Meeting was accordingly adjourned

Monday 10. O: Clock Forenoon met according to Adjournment

The Article in the Warrant. Viz^{t}. "To consider what is proper to be done in order to have the Ways at Winnisimit Ferry put in proper repair" — was read and considered — whereupon

Voted, that the Selectmen be and hereby are directed and impowered to treat with, and Lease to any Person or Persons, who may appear to hire the same; Winnisimit Ferrey, for a term not exceeding fifteen years, upon such Terms and Conditions as to the Selectmen shall appear for the Interest of the Town — or to repair the said Ferry Ways in such manner as they may Judge most advantageious, and then to let the same upon such conditions, as they may Judge best, not exceeding the term of time before mentioned

A Motion was made by General Hancock relative to Beacon Hill, but not Acted upon as the same was not inserted in the Warrant for calling a Meeting, and the Town were of opinion, that this matter would come with propriety before the Selectmen

[288.] The Committee of Correspondence Inspection and Safety Reported to the Town verbally, their doings in Compliance with late Vote respecting Prissioners going at Large and also laid before the Town the representation they had Made to the Hon^{ble}. the Council of this State relative to this Matter — whereupon

Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby are given to the Committee of Correspondence &c for their special Vigilance on so important an occasion

The Committee appointed to attend the Convention at Concord, were desired to Report their doings in Convention, at the Adjournment of this Meeting

Voted, that when this Meeting shall be Adjourned, it be to Wednesday next 9. O.Clock A: M: for the special purposes of receiving the Report of said Committee, and that the Selectmen be directed to Notify the Inhabitants of the Buissiness of said Adjournment

The Article in the Warrant — Viz^{t}. "To consider what allowance shall be made the Assessors, for their past servicies," was read and considered whereupon the Question was put. Viz^{t}. whether the Selectmen shall be Authorised to allowe to each of the Assessors for their past Servicies, twelve Dollars ꝑ day — passed in the Affermative unanimously

Adjourned to Wednesday next the 28 Ins^{t}. 9. O.Clock

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duley qualified & Legally warned in publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday y^{e}. 26th. Day of July Anno Dom. 1779.

[289.] Warrant for calling the Meeting — read

The Inhabitants were directed to bring in their Votes for a Moderator of this Meeting and the same having been brought in and sorted it appeared that

The Hon^{ble}. John Hancock Esq^{r}.

was chosen

The Article in the Warrant — Viz^t. — "To consider and grant such further Sums of Money, and in such manner as may be Judged needfull for defreying the necessary Charges of the Town the present Year" — was read, and after due consideration

Voted, that the further Sum of Thirty thousand in addition to the £30,000. granted the twelfth of March last. be raised by a Tax upon Polls, and Estates within this Town for the Relief of the Poor, and defreying other necesssary Charges arising within this Town the ensuing Year

Then the Meeting was dissolved

At a Meeting of the Freeholders &c by Adjournment, from the 9th. and 26th. Instant. 9. O.Clock A: M:

The Constables made Return on the Warrant for notefying the Inhabitants of this Adjournment

The Committee appointed to Represent this Town in the Convention begun and held, **[290.]** at Concord on the 14th. day of July Instant for the purpose of carrying into effect the Measures recommended by Congress to the Inhabitants of the United States in their late wise seasonable and animating Address — Reported as follows, See particulars as entered at Large in the fair Quarto Book of Town Meeting from Page 95 to 114

The Report having been read, after due consideration of the Same the Question was put — Viz^t. — Whether the Town will receive and adopt the Resolutions and proceedings, aforesaid, and so far as is in their Power will take every effectual Measure to carrey them into execution — Passed in the Affermative — unanimously — also

Voted, that

Nath^l. Appleton Esq^r.
Edward Green
Ebenezer Hancock Esq^r.
Ellis Gray — Esq^r.
M^r. Joseph Russell
M^r. Henry Prentice
M^r. John Sweetser

be and hereby are appointed a Committee to consider and Report the most speedy and effectual Measures for carrying the Proceedings of Convention into effect — further

Voted,

Isaac Smith Esq^r.
M^r. Thomas Walley
M^r. Leonard Jarvis
Cap^t. Isaac Sears
M^r. Higgerson
M^r. William Foster
M^r. Joseph Barrel
[291.] Cap^t. John Ballard
Col^o. Andrew Symms
Cap^t. Gibbins Sharp
Cap^t. Robert Davis
M^r. John Fenno
M^r. Nathaniel Baker

be and hereby are appointed and impowered to affix pricies on the Several Articles mentioned in the 4th. & 5th. Resolutions of the Convention

Voted, that when this Meeting be Adjourned, it shall be to Wednesday next 9. O.Clock in the Forenoon to meet at this place

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

Wednesday the 4th. Day of August 9. O: Clock. Forenoon, Met according to Adjournment

The Committee to take into consideration the most effectual and speedy means to carry the proceedings and Resolutions of the Convention at Concord into effect — Reported in part as their Opinion," that whereas it is necessary that further Reduction of Prices, should take place, and it cannot be reasonably expected, unless the *Method* of *Loring* — [*sic* lowering] recommended by the Convention of Concord, be fully adopted, That a Committee be appointed to apply to the Inhabitants, of this Town and earnestly, request them, voluntarley to Subscribe as much Money as they can possibly spare or Loan to Government, that the Necessity of further Emissions may be prevented

[292.] The foregoing Report being read and considered the Question was put — Viz^{t}. — Whether the same shall be accepted — passed in the Affermative — also

Voted, that the Committee be directed to Report again at the Adjournment and that Samuel Barret Esq^{r}. be added to the Committee

Voted, that a Committee be now appoint'd to procure Subscriptions for a Loan of Money to Congress, agreeable to the preceding Vote; and that the Substance of said Vote, be taken as the preamble to the Subscription Paper

Voted, that the Committee appointed at a Body Meeting, for the purpose of procuring Subscriptions to fortify the Harbour &c exclusive of the Cap^{t}. of each Ward — Viz^{t}.

Mess^{rs}.	John R. Sigorney	Ward N^{o}. 1
	William Clough	
	Cap^{t}. John Lambert	2
	Ebenezer Hancock Esq^{r}.	
	Nathaniel Fellows	3
	Samuel Eliot	
	John Cogswell	4
	Daniel Parker	
	Thomas Hitchburne	5
	John Pulling	
	Cap^{t}. Samuel Barret	6
	John Barret Ju^{r}.	
	Cap^{t}. Job Prince Sen^{r}.	7
	M^{r}. William Davis	
	M^{r}. Samuel Eliot	8
	Cap^{t}. Jones	
[293.]	Cap^{t}. David Spear	Ward N^{o}. 9
	M^{r}. William Sutton	

Major John Read Col^{o}. Thomas Dawes	10
Col^{o}. Thomas Crafts Henry Hill Esq^{r}.	11
Cap^{t}. Amasa Davis M^{r}. William Gooch	12

be and hereby are appointed a Committee to procure Subscriptions for a Loan to Congress agreeable to the preceeding Report and Vote thereon

The Resolutions of the Town of Milton relative to the Proceedings of the Convention at Concord, were laid before the Town, and being read, were much approved of by the Inhabitants

The Committee appointed to affix the prices of the several Articles mentioned in the *fourth* and *Fifth* Resolutions of the Convention of Concord, being called upon to make Report informed the Town; that they were not as yet able to do it, but that they had so attended to the Buissiness Assigned them, and had made such enquires, and taken such previous Measures for information, as lead them to apprehend, they might be ready to Report by Tuesday next

It being represented in this Meeting, that two Prisoners, not upon Parole had taken their Residence at a House in y^{e}. South Part of the Town

Voted, that the Committee of Correspondence Inspection and Safety be acquainted therewith, and [**294.**] Desired to take such Measures as they may Judge expedient for the Security of the Town

On a Motion made

Voted, that this Meeting be Adjourned to Monday next being the 9th. Instant. 3. O: Clock Afternoon — also

Voted, that the Selectmen be directed to cause written Notifications of the Adjournment and the buissiness to be then transacted, to be sent to the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town

And the Meeting was then accordingly Adjourned

Monday the 9th. of August 3. O.Clock Afternoon — met according to Adjournment

The Hon^{ble}. Samuel Adams Esq^{r}. the Moderator of this Meeting, informing the Town that he was going on a Journey and desires a Moderator might be chosen in his room

Voted, that a Moderator Pro Tempory be now chosen by a Hand Vote

John Scollay Esq^{r}. was then chosen, but not being found, the Town to prevent loss of time, proceeded to another chose, when

John Rowe Esq^{r}. was chosen in the room of John Scollay Esq^{r}. Moderator Pro. Tem^{o}.

[**295.**] The Committee chosen by the Town to affix pricies on European Goods &c — Reported verbally —

That they had continued their Attention to the buissiness assigned them, but should not be able to Report fully before — Wednesday next

The Committee appointed by the Town to consider and devise the most effectual Measures to carry the Resolutions of the late Convention at Concord into effect — Reported — which Report being read, after some debate thereon, on a Motion made

Voted, that the forementioned Report be recommitted, and the said Committee are desired to Report again at the Adjournment

On a Motion made — Voted, that a Committee be now chosen to make enquirey and consider and Report to the Town at the Adjournment of this Meeting, what they shall Judge may be best or further necessary for the Town to do, for their security in case of an Invasion from the Enemy

Voted, that Samuel Barret Esq^r.
Col^o. Thomas Dawes
Col^o. Jabez Hatch
Col^o. Thomas Crafts
Maj^r. Thomas Melvin [Melville?]
D^r. Charles Jarvis
Cap^t. Amasa Davis

be a Committee for the Purpose aforesaid

On a Motion, made, Voted that this Meeting be Adjourned to Thursday next 12 Ins^t .— 12. O.Clock at noon

[**296.**] And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

Thursday August 12^th.— meet according to Adjournment

The Committee appointed by the Town to affix the pricies of European Goods &c — Reported and it was Voted, that the same should be taken up and considered, Paragraph by Paragraph —

After some debate on said Report a Motion was made and carried that the Meeting be Adjourned to 3. O.Clock Afternoon

3. O.Clock, Afternoon, meet according to Adjournment

The Report of the Committee for affixing prices of European Goods, &c was again read, and after some debate had thereon — a Motion was made that the further consideration of the said Report be referred to the Adjournment of this Meeting, which it was proposed should be next Monday 10. O.Clock in the Forenoon — And the Question being accordingly put — Passed in the Affermative

The Petition of a number of the Inhabitants of this Town, Butchers, Tanners, Leather Dressers, Tallow Chandlers and Soap Boilers, praying that the Town would enter upon some speedy Measures for the introduction of live Stock, so that the Butchering business may be again carried on in this Town as also the other branches of Manufacturers [**297.**] Which have been driven from us to the Neighbouring Towns, to their no small benefit, and the great loss and damage of the Inhabitants of this Town, and offering their service, in going into the Country for Cattle & — was read, and after some debate and consideration

Voted, that the further consideration of this Petition be refferred to a Committee, who are desired to make Report at the Adjournment of this Meeting

Voted, that Thomas Crafts Esq^r.
Caleb Davis Esq^r.
Ezekiel Price Esq^r.
M^r. William Davis
Cap^t. John Ballard
M^r. Leonard Jarvis
M^r. Shubael Hews
be a Committee for the purpose

The confession of one Everet of Roxbury who had violated the late Regulations of the Convention, in this Town, by bringing unmerchantable Meat into the Town and with a Letter from the Selectmen of Roxbury, transmitting the same were read

The Committee appointed "to devise means for the further security and defence of the Town, in case of an Invasion" — Reported and the same having been read, a Motion was made and carried that said Report be recommitted

[298.] Adjourned to Monday next being the 16th. of August Ins^t. 9. O.Clock in the Forenoon

Monday 9. O.Clock in the Forenoon meet according to Adjournment

The Committee appointed to enquire what is further necessary to be done by the Town for their security in case of Invasion have attended that service and beg leave — To Report — That great part of the Arms quoted in the Schedule delivered to the Committee as put into the Hands of the Melitia Officers of the Town, were delivered to several Persons who from time to time went into the Publick service, as the Town quota or Draught of Men for one Department and another and are not returned and in general they were very bad Arms and many of them burst in the Tryall, they therefore recomend to the Town to direct the Selectmen to make immediate Application to the Hon^ble. Council of the State for a Loan of Such Arms as Col^o. Hatch shall report are Still defficient the same to be put into his Hands to be delivered from time to time as there may be occasion for the immediate defence of this Town, to his Officers for the use of such Persons in their respective Companies as are not able to procure Arms for themselves to be returned in the Fall

That Col^o. Hatch is of Opinion that the fixed amunition mentioned in the aforesaid Schedule is in possession of his several Officers **[299.]** That He has taken a List of it and will ascertain the Quantity and where deposited

Your Committee are of Opinion that it would be enestimable service in case of Invasion and therefore wish to have it recommended by the Town to a number of Gentlemen who have been in the Continental and State Artillery Service to form themselves into an Association or Independant Corps for the purpose of taking such command rendering such service as may be Assigned them, and also that one or more Companies of Artillery be raised from among the Masters of Vessells, and other Inhabitants for the defence of the Town, and put under immediate Discipline

They further Reported that it be Recomended to give Orders for presenting all Persons who shall neglect to Equip themselves, or to attend the Millitary Musters to the utmost extent of the Law

They also earnestly recommend to such Gentelmen who have hitherto Neglected Military Duty to turn out in their Several Wards that all Companies may equal those whose accomplishments in the Military Art while they reflect the highest Honour on them must be productive of the most Assential Service in time of Danger

All which is humbly Submitted

SAMUEL BARRETT Chairman

[**300.**] The foregoing Report having been read and considered Paragraph by Paragraph, the Question was put " Whether the Report as it now stands amended be accepted — passed in the Affermative — also

Voted, that Cap^{t}. Gustavus Fellows
Col^{o}. Thomas Dawes
Col^{o}. Thomas Crafts
Col^{o}. Nathaniel Barber
Cap^{t}. Diamond Moreton
Cap^{t}. Job Prince
Cap^{t}. Daniel Martin

be and hereby are appointed a Committee to endeavour the obtaining such Associations as are refferred to in the two foregoing Articles, and also the carrying the other Articles of said Report into effect

On a Motion

Voted, that the Selectmen be requested to make further enquiry into the disposal of eighty Fire Arms delivered by them to the Militia Officers of this Town, and five hundred eighty seven delivered to Col^{o}. Edward Procter by order from the Selectmen aforesaid on the Board of War, sometime in May 1777 which 667 Arms were delivered by the said Board of War, pursuant to a Resolve of the General Court of May 6th. 1777 — the Selectmen to Report how many of the said Arms are now in the Town, and where deposited; and how the others were disposed of; also to make an enquirey relative to a Number of Cartridges delivered to the Militia Officers being part of the Town Stock

[**301.**] The Committee appointed to affix the Pricies of the Several Articles mentioned in the 4th. and 5th. Resolves of the Convention held at Concord July 14th. 1779 Reported

Whereas the Goods and wares imported from Europe are so various in their kinds and qualities as to render it quite impracticable to determine the exact Price at which every Article ought to sold and it is necessary the Pricies of those kinds of Goods, should be reduced in the same proportion as the West India Imports

Therefore Resolved that all Holders and Retailers of Europian Wares and Merchandize shall from time to time forward sell all such Articles at twenty pC^{t}. or one fifth part less than the Prices at which the same Articles were sold in the Month of July last, that being the avarige deduction in the Prices of West India Goods

And in Order that the aforegoing Resolve may be more effectually complyed with, and that all those who wish to enrich themselves at the Expence of their Neighbours, and who on all Occasions are disposed to take Advantage of our Friends in the Country may be prevented in future from Preying upon their more worthy fellow citizens and Country Bretheren

Be it Resolved, that William Cooper Esq^{r}. M^{r}. Gibbens Sharp, Cap^{t}. Isaac Phillips, Col^{o}. Edward Procter. Cap^{t}. Gustavus Fellows Major Thomas Melvill, M^{r}. Henry Prentice. M^{r}. William Hoskins **[302.]** Cap^{t}. Alex^{r}. Willson D^{r}. Nath^{l}. Noyes M^{r}. Samuel Ruggles, M^{r}. Joshua Pulling and D^{r}. Charles Jarvis, be a Committee with whom may be lodg'd Complaints of all Violations and evasions of the above Resolve, who are hereby impowered and directed to enquire into all Such complaints and to Publish the Names of those who upon good and Satisfactory Evidence may be convicted of Violating or evading said Resolves, as Enemies to their Country as they may be delt with according to their Demerit and all Persons whether from the Town or Country, who may think themselves imposed upon by any Person in the Town in not Complying with the aforegoing Resolve are hereby desired to lodge a Complaint with aforementioned Committee that the Matter may be enquired into

Resolved that the following Prices for Labourers and Manufactures &c. be the highest that shall be demanded or given for the future Labourers 60/ p Day they finding themselves Ship-Carpenters, Carpenters, caulkers, Riggers Ship Joiners Housewrights and Masens 78/ p Day they finding themselves — Blacksmiths Block makers, Carvers, Cabinet makers Peiwtarers shall reduce their Prices at Least 10 p C^{t}. from the Preasent Prices — Printers Ropemakers Boat Builders Coopers Cordwainers and Tinmen shall reduce their Prices at least twenty pc from the Present Prices — Saillmakers shall not have more than £1.8/ p Bolt for working New Canvas and for old Work in Proportion **[303.]** Tanners 18/ p Pound for Sole Leather and other Leather in proportion — Leather Dressers for a p^{r}. Dearskin Breeches of the very best sort — £35 and other Articles in proportion — Hatters for best Beaver Hatts £35. beaveretts £24 and felt Hatts £4 each, Barbers and hair Dressers shall reduce their Prices from the present rates at least 15/ Tailors shall not have more than £18 p Suit for plain Cloaths £22. 10/ for half trimed, and other Work in proportion — Painters shall reduce their Prices from the present rate 15 p C^{t}. Ship Chandlers shall reduce their prices from the present Rate 20 p C^{t}. execept Pitch which shall not exceed £35 p Barrell and Tar and Turpentine £30. each Truckman for truckage of a Large Hogshead of Sugar 18/ Molasses Rum &c 15/ tierces 9/ Barrel 4/ by the Load and Other Work in proportion — Wharfingers for Wharfage, Cording, Sealing and carrying off Wood £3. 12/ p Cord Farriers for Shoeing a Horse all round £6 and for shifting a set of Shoes 48/ — Refined Iron £37. 10/ p C^{t}. Card makers £36 p doz^{n}. for Cards and 66/ a single pair. Glaziers for setting Glass and finding the putty shall not have more than 4/ 6 p square, Inholders and Victuallers shall reduce their Prices of Victualling and Horse

Keeping in proportion to the Reduction of the Prices of Provisions and Hay — Hucksters shall not take more than Six-pence advance upon the shilling — Fishmongers shall not take more than 12d. p pound for Cod, 3^{d}. for Haddock and 1/ 3 for Hallybut, without entrails, Goldsmiths shall not demand of the Purchaser no more than the weight of the Plate they Manufacture and twenty Times what they had for their Labour in Manufacturing before the year 1775 [**304.**] All Other Tradesmen not mentioned shall reduce their Prices in an Average proportion with those of their Bretheren, and the Article of Consumption

ISAAC SMITH p Order

Which Report having been read and taken up, Paragraph by Paragraph the Question was put Viz^{t}. Whether such Report as amended by the said Town be accepted passed in the Affermative and so far as relates to regulating prices of Goods unanimously

Adjourned to 5. O.Clock P.M.

5. OClock Met according to Adjournment A Committee Appointed to consider and report the most effectual and Speedy Measures for carrying the Resolves of the Convention and of the Town into Effect reported as follows

Whereas the carrying into effect the Resolutions of the Convention at Concord and the subsequent Resolves of this Town in Conformity thereto is of the last importance to the Community and the Violation of them in the present scituation of Publick Affairs a crime of the deepest dye

Voted, that any Person directly or indirectly either by himself or any Person for and under him who shall buy or sell, or Offer to give or take an higher price at publick Market or private Sale or who may withhold any Article except from Persons who may be Inhabitants of such places as have not Adopted simaler measures or in any [**305.**] Other Way whatever Violate the said Resolutions shall have his or her Names Published by the Committee hereafter Appointed in the News Papers in this Town that the Publick knowing may Abstain from all Trade And Conversation with them and the People at Large inflict upon them that Punishment which such Wretches deserve to trade or hold any intercourse or conversation with such Persons

Voted, that it is the duty of every Citizen to keep a Vigilant Eye upon his Neighbour that Any infrindgements upon the Resolutions aforesaid may be prevented and where it may unhappely take place to give immediate information to the Committee, Appointed to receive such Complaints

Voted, that William Cooper Esq^{r}. Deacon Gibbens Sharp, Cap^{t}. Isaac Phillips, Col^{o}. Edw^{d}. Procter, Cap^{t}. Gustavus Fellows, Maj^{r}. Thomas Melvill, M^{r}. Henry Prentice, M^{r}. William Hoskins, Cap^{t}. Alex^{r}. Wilson Doct^{r}. Nath^{l}. Noyes, M^{r}. Sam^{l}. Ruggles, Cap^{t}. John Pulling and Doct^{r}. Charles Jarvis, be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid, In as much as sending Servants to the Market Ferries to the Neck, and to the Neighbouring Towns with discretionary Orders has a direct tendency to counteract the Resolves of the Convention and of this Town

Therefore it is repeatedly and especially Resolved that if any Person who shall by his Servant or any Person under him presume either directly or indirectly to Offer or give either in Town [**306.**] Or out of it for any Article of Consumption an higher Price than is Stipulated therefore in the Resolves aforesaid incure the higest Resentment of the People and be proceeded against as in the first preceeding Resolves, And the Committee of Twelve Appointed to Aid the Civil Magistrate in the Execution of the Monopoly Act, are hereby appointed a Committee to Advance and Assist the Committee of thirteen aforesaid in carrying this Resolve into the fullest Execution

The Committee further Report that the Inhabitants in all their Purchases of Meat, buy by the Pound and not by the quarter as the latter Mode is an Inlet to great evasions and may elude the salutary Purpose in View

That it be earnestly recommended to the Committee of the Neighbouring Towns to Meet together as Speedialy as possible at any Town which they may think proper to fix the Prices which Vegetables and other Articles not already regulated as usually brought to this Market shall be sold and delivered in this Town and make returne to the Committee of the State Convention in order that the same may be Published for the Goverment of its Inhabitants

NATHANIEL APPLETON p Order

The foregoing Report having been considered and amended, it was Voted unanimously that the Town do accept the same

On a Motion Voted, that the foregoing Report and the preceeding Report relative to affixing [**307.**] Prices be printed in the Thursdays Papers; and that the same be also printed in hand Bills as also the Prices of Articles affexed by the Convention, and disposed among the Inhabitants of this Town.

Voted, that the Town Clerk be requested to print the foregoing Votes in the Thursdays Papers

The Committee appointed on the Petition of severell Butchers and others. Reported and agreeable to said Report

Voted, that Shops or Stalls be opened in the Severell parts of the Town for supplying the Inhabitants with Butchers Meat

Voted, that part of the Stalls in Faneuil Hall Market be alloted to the Butchers of the Town under such regulations as the Selectmen shall direct

Voted, that all the Hides and Tallow belonging to the Creatures slaughtered in the Town be disposed of to the Inhabitants who manufactur'd the same for sale

To prevent Slaughter Houses being set up in such Places as may be a Neusence to the Inhabitants — Voted, that no such Houses be improved untill approbation is obtained therefor from the Selectmen

Voted, that for the encouragement of any Person or Persons who will undertake the Butchers buissiness and open a Shop or Stall in this [**308.**] Town for the selling of Beef Mutton or Lamb; the Inhabitants engage to give the preference to such Butchers in their purchasing of Meat; also that those Butchers shall have every other encouragement Aid an Assistance from the Inhabitants which is in their Power to afford them.

Voted, that upon application of any Person or Persons who are or may become Inhabitants, who shall undertake the Butchers Buissiness in the Town, for a recommendation to the Farmers to purchase live Stock, the Selectmen approving of them are desired to give recommendations accordingly

Adjourned to Tuesday next being the 17th. Inst. 11. O.Clock Forenoon

Tuesday 11. O.Clock Forenoon Met according to Adjournment

Whereas Col°. Thomas Chase D Quarter Masr. General has represented to this Meeting, that he had agreed with a Number of Teamsters for the Publick service, at the rate of eighteen shillings a Mile; and that several Persons had offered to the same Teamstears a much higher price, which is not only to the great damage and Detrement of the service, but has a direct tendency to counteract the Measures taken for establishing the Currency — whereupon

Voted, that Col°. Chase be desired to make thorough inquirey respecting this Matter and **[309.]** Give information of the facts and Persons to the Committee of Thirteen that those Offenders may be proceeded with agreeable to the Resolves of the Town

Voted, that it be earnestly recommended to the publick Spirited Merchants of this Town, that they continue their utmost exertions, to procure as great a Sum to be loned to Government, as can possibly be obtained, considering how much depends upon the success of this measure

On a Motion made, Voted, that the last paragraph, in the Report of the Committee for affexing prices as it respects Lumber and Wood be not printed

Voted, that the Committee Appointed to procure Loans in the several Wards who have not made their Reports be desired to do it immediately

On a Motion

Voted, That this Town in conformity to the recommendation of the late Convention at Concord, will appoint Delagates for the Purposed Convention to meet at Concord in October next; and the Selectmen are directed to call a Meeting in Season for this Purpose

Then the Meeting was dissolved

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston who are Free and twenty one years of age at Faneuil Hall the 12th. Day of August Anno Domini 1779

[310.] Warrant for calling Meeting — read

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw, and bring in their Votes for a Moderator and the same being brought in and sorted, it appeared, that

The Honble. John Hancock Esqr.

was chosen Moderator of this Meeting unanimously

The Resolve of the General Court relative to the forming a new

Constitution or Form of Goverment for the People of this State — was read

A Motion made that the consideration of the number of Delagates to be chosen for the Convention to set at Cambridge for the Sole purpose of framing a New Constitution, be referred over to the Adjournment of this Meeting — And the Question being accordingly put — Passed in the Affermative

It was then moved and carried that this Meeting be Adjourned to Monday next being the 16th. Day of August 3. O.Clock in the Afternoon then to meet in this Place

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

Monday August 16th. 1779 — 3. O.Clock P: M:

Met according to Adjournment

[**311.**] General Hancock the Moderator of this Meeting having acquainted the Town that he was by sickness prevented from giving his attendance; the Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for a Moderator Pro. Temº. and the same having been brought in and sorted, it appeared that

Isaac Smith Esqr.

was chosen

The Town having taken into consideration what number of Delagates shall be chosen for the Convention at Cambridge, it was Voted, that twelve Persons be chosen to Represent this Town in said Convention

On a Motion made

Voted, that the Poll for the advice of Delagates, be closed at 6. O.Clock

The Vote being brought in for twelve Delagates, and counted, it appeared that only Ten were chosen Vizt.

The Honble.	James Bowdoin Esqr.	187
The Honble.	Samuel Adams Esqr.	192
The Honble.	John Hancock Esqr.	185
The Honble.	Oliver Wendell Esqr.	189
	Nathl. Appleton Esqr.	165
	Thomas Daws Esqr.	137
	Ellis Gray Esqr.	148
	John Lowell Esqr.	141
	Samuel A. Otis Esqr.	119
	Dr. Charles Jarvis	133

[**312.**] The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for two more Delagates and the same being brought in and sorted, it appeared that only one was chosen Vizt.

Ebenezer Storer Esqr.

Adjourned to to Morrow Morning 10. O.Clock A: M:

Tuesday the 17th. Day of August 10. O.Clock Forenoon — Met according to Adjournment

Mr. Storer chosen yesterday one of the Delagates having desired, that he might be excused from serving in that place — the Question was accordingly put — which passed in the Negative

The Inhabitants having been desired to withdraw and bring in their Votes for one other Delagate, and the same having been brought in and sorted, it appeared, that

Samuel Barret Esq^{r}.

was chosen

Voted, that the Delagates aforementioned, be and hereby are Instructed to Cause a printed Copy of the Form of a Constitution, they may agree upon in Convention, to be transmitted to the Selectmen of each Town; and the Committee of each Plantation; to be by them laid before their Respective Towns and Plantations for their Consideration, in order to its being approved or disproved, and other wise acted upon pursuant to a late Resolve of the General Court of this State

[313.] Then the Meeting was dissolved

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall Sep^{r}. 3^{d}. 1779. 10. O.Clock A.M.

Warrant for calling Meeting — read

On a Motion, Voted, that a Moderator of this Meeting be chosen by a Hand Vote

John Rowe Esq^{r}.

was accordingly chosen Moderator of this Meeting

The Committee of Thirteen appointed by the Town to inforce the Regulations of the late Convention &c — having acquainted the Inhabitants of their proceedings with respect to Cap^{t}. Alexander Mackay as a Violater of said Resolutions; and also laid before them his late Publication, which greatly reflects on said Committee — A Motion was made that the said Alexander Mackay be required to give his attendance at this Meeting which passed in the Affermative

The Article in the Warrant. Viz^{t}. — To consider of the Petition of a number of the Inhabitants setting forth, that they are apprehensive that the greatest, distress imaginable must soon take place from the scarciety of Fire Wood; and therefore **[314.]** Requesting, that application may be made as soon as possible to the Hon^{ble}. the Council of this State, that Convoys may be appointed for the encouragement and securitey of the Coasters and others whó bring that Article to this Market; or to take such other measures therein as may be Judged proper — was read, and after some debate, it was moved, and

Voted, that a Committee be appointed to take this matter into consideration, and Report to the Town what they apprehend best to be done thereon

Voted, that Col^{o}. Sears
Joseph Barrel
Ezekiel Price Esq^{r}.
M^{r}. John Sweetser
Cap^{t}. John Ballard

be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

On a Motion made

Voted, that the Committee for stating the prices of Merchandize &c be desired to Report their doings at the Adjournment

Alexander Mackay appeared; and the Committee of Thirteen, and said Mackay having been fully heard — the Question was put Vizt. — Whether it appears to this Town that the Committee in publishing the Name of *Alexander Mackay* as an Enemy to his Country, were well founded with respect to facts; and that they have acted therein with fidelity and a due concern for the Publick interest — Passed in the Affermative

[**315.**] The Committee relative to Fire Wood laid their Report on the Table — On a Motion Adjourned to 3. O.Clock - - - Afternoon

3. O: Clock P. M. met according to Adjournment

The Publication of Alexander Mackey being again taken up

Voted, Nemo. Cone. That it is the Opinion, of the Town that the Peice Signed Alexander Mackay and Published in Willis's Paper of last Thursday, is a *false infamous* and *Malicious* Libel on a respectable Committee of this Town, and this Town resent the Writing and Publishing of said Libel as affrontive to them — also

Voted, Nemo. Conde. that this and the preceeding Vote respecting Alexander Mackay be published in the several News Papers, that the good People of this State may consider the said Mackay as deserving the full punishment Assign'd such Offenders in their late Resolves

The Report of the Committee relative to Fire-Wood was again read, and considered Paragraph by Paragraph — and after longe debate

Voted, that the Inhabitants and Wharfingers be desired, not to give more than sixty Dollars p Cord for Wood brought to this Market, and that the Wharfingers who have Wood. be desired not to dispose of more than two loads to one Person at a time

[**316.**] Voted, that the Distillers be earnestly requested immediately to distill ye. Cisterns they now have working, and are no longer to distill any more untill the Town is supplied with that very Article and that a Committee be appointed to see what quantity of Wood is now in the hands of the Distillers, and Report immediately

On a Motion the further consideration of the forementioned Report was referred to the Adjournment

Voted, that this Meeting be Adjourn'd to Tuesday next 9. O: Clock. Forenoon

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

Thursday the 9th. Day of September 9. O: Clock. Forenoon met according to Adjournment but no Bells having been rung, and but few Inhabitants attending the Meeting was further Adjourned to 3. O.Clock Afternoon

3. O: Clock Afternoon the Town met according to Adjournment

John Rowe Esq. in the Chair

The Inhabitants being Informed that the Town Clerk was by Sickness prevented from giving his Attendance

M^{r}. Samuel Ruggles
was appointed Town Clerk Pro. Tem°.

The Committee at this Meeting Reported the quantity of Wood in the hands of the Distillers

[**317.**] The Town entered on a further consideration of the Report of the Committee relative to Fire-Wood, whereupon

Voted, that the Selectmen be desired to appoint two or more Persons to Measure all the Wood carreying into this Town by Land, who shall give to every Teamster a Ticket as has been usual heretofore; — the Purchaser to pay for measuring

Voted, that the Distillers be permitted to import what Wood they may have occasion for provided they do not interfere with the common course of supply by Coasters who usually supply this Market, nor purchase of the Country People bringing in their Wood by Land — also

Voted, That Wood from the Eastward should not be at a higher price then sixty Dollars a Cord — but in as much as our Bretheren who supply us by Water from that Quarter, run great hazard it was further

Voted, that twelve hundred Dollars be paid to the Persons, that shall bring into this Town the greatest quantity of Cord Wood, from this Time to the First Day of April next — And one Thousand Dollars to the next largest Importer — to be paid them by the Town Treasurer, upon Certificate being produced, from the Selectmen of this Town — And that it be recommended to the Wharfingers that they supply no single Familey with more than two Cord at a time untill the Town is better supplied

[**318.**] It was then moved that a Large Committee be appointed to prevent Wood, Meat &c &c from being ingrossed, before it entered the Town, but it being dark the consideration thereof, and some other Affairs of importance mentioned by the Moderator, which comes under the Article in the Warrant — Viz^{t}. — To consider whether any further steps shall be taken for the better supply of this Market with the Necessaries of Life. was refferred over to the next Town Meeting then to be acted upon if the Town should Judge proper

Then the Meeting was Dissolved

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneauiel Hall on Thursday the 14th. Day of September 1779 — 9. O.Clock A: M

The Precept and Warrant for calling the Meeting — read

The Question was then put Viz^{t}. Whether the Town will now proceed, agreeable to the Precept read, to Elect and Depute one Person to Represent them in the Great and General Court or Assembly now convened at the State House in Boston in the Room of the Hon^{ble}. Samuel Adams Esq^{r}. who has been Elected, to and taken a Seat at the Hon^{ble}. Board" — and the same passed in the Negative

[**319.**] The Town having Voted, not to come to the choice of a Representative in the room of Mr. Adams — A Motion was then made that a Moderator be now chosen that the Town may proceed to consider and determine upon the other Articles in the Warrant

The Inhabitants having withdrawn and brought in their Votes for a Moderator

It Appeared that

Stephen Higginson Esqr.

was chosen unanimously

The Town Clerk being detained at home by sickness

Mr. Elisha Avery

was chosen Clerk Pro. Temo.

The Article in the Warrant Vizt. "To take into consideration a Representation of the Hattmakers of the Town, setting forth the difficulties they Labour under on Account of the price fixed to Beaver Hatts, and the reasonableness of an alteration in that Article" — was read, and after some debate had thereon — a Motion was made that the Hattmakers have leave to withdraw their Petition — and the Question being put — Passed in the Affermative

The Article in the Warrant Vizt. — To consider and determine upon some effectual Measures to prevent the pernicious practice of Persons going on the Neck and at the Ferry and [**320.**] There purchasing Provisions by means whereof the Inhabitants in general are prevented being supplied therewith — was read, whereupon

Voted, that Capt. Samuel Hendley
Capt. Amasa Davis
Ezekiel Price Esqr.

be a Committee to take said Articles into Consideration and Report thereon

The Article in the Warrant relative to the choice of Delagates for the Convention to be held at Concord, being read — it was determined by the Town, that Seven Persons shall be chose to Represent them in said Convention

Adjourned to 3. O: Clock Afternoon

3. O.Clock Afternoon Met according to Adjournment

The Committee appointed to consider of some Method to prevent Persons going on the Neck and over the Ferry, to purchase Provisions Report

That two Persons be stationed at the Fortification near the Neck, and two Persons at Charlestown Ferrey, who will be directed to use every proper Method to prevent Persons going over the Neck and passing Charlestown Ferrey in Order to purchase Provisions, bringing to Market which Persons to continue on said Duty Untill the Selectmen shall Judge it unnecessary

SAM : HENLEY p Order

[**321.**] The Foregoing Report having been read and considered — the Question was put — Whether the same be accepted — Passed in the Affermative

Voted, that Mr. Benja. Edes
Mr. William Hoskins
Capt. John Ballard

be a Committee to prepare a List of twenty Persons to be Stationed at the Fortification and Charlestown Ferry in Rotation to prevent Persons going out of Boston to purchase Provisions

The Town having brought in their Votes for Seven Delagates, it appeared that

John Rowe Esqr.
Isaac Sears Esqr.
Mr. Thomas Walley
Stephen Higginson Esqr. (excused
Capt. Amasa Davis — (excused
Samuel Barrel Esqr.
Capt. John Ballard
were chose Mr. Leonard Jarvis
Ezekiel Price Esqr. (excused
Isaac Smith Esqr.

were chosen Delagates to Represent the Town at the Convention to be held at Concord on Wednesday the 6th. of October next, then and there with such Committies as may be sent by Other Towns, to take into consideration the Prices of Merchandize and Country Produce and to do those things that may be necessary for carrying into effect such measures as have been recommended by Congress in their late Address and [**322.**] The Resolutions and Proceedings of the People of this Town in consequence of said Address at their several Meetings

On a Motion made

Voted, that a Committee be chosen to go into the Country to consult within the several Towns upon some Measures for the better supplying the Town with Provisions

Voted, that Colo. Isaac Seers
Mr. Ebenezer Dorr
Mr. Samuel Breck
Mr. Enoch Brown
Capt. Alexander Willson
Mr. Leonard Jarvis

be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

Voted, that the following Persons be the Committee to attend at the Fortification and Charlestown Ferry in Rotation, two at each place dayly, for the purposes of preventing People going out of Town to purchase Provisions Vizt.

North End
Capt. John Pulling
Mr. Nathaniel Hitchburne
Capt. John Ballard
Mr. John Richardson
Deacon Sharp
John R. Sigorney
Francis Shaw Esqr.
John Kennedy
John Kneeland

[323.] Moses Grant
Ephraim Copeland
Foster Condy
South End
Benjamin Edes
Norton Brailsford
Adam Colson
Joseph Shed
Joseph Lovering
Thomas Uran
Maj^r. Thomas Melvil
Cap^t. Nath^l Curtis
Christ^o. Clarke
William Fallas
Thomas Thompson
Isaac Pierce

Then the Meeting was Dissolved

At a Meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in publick Town Meeting at Faneiuel Hall Tuesday the 21^t. Day of September 1779 3. O: Clock Afternoon

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read

The Inhabitants having brought in their Votes for a Moderator of this Meeting and the same being sorted, it appeared, that

[324.] The Hon^ble. Samuel Adams Esq^r.

was chosen unanimously

The Committee appointed to go into the Country, Reported partly in Writing by Col^o. Sears and M^r. Dorr, and partly verbally by Cap^t. Willson, and M^r. Edes, whereby it appeared that the Town may expect a Good supply of Provisions from the Country Towns, and that it would be well they should have Sugar and Rum as wanted — that the Country People Apprehend that some Merchants and Shopkeepers in the dry Goods way, have withheld or raised the prices of those Articles of Merchandize, and that they are also under apprehensions with respect to the consequencies from such Quantities of Goods, being sent to Connecticut or sold to the Freeholders of that State

The Question was then put " Whether these Reports be accepted — Passed in the Affermative unanimously

Voted, that a Committee be appointed " to take the aforementioned Report into consideration, and Report at the Adjournment, what they apprehend are the proper steps to be taken, in order to support the Regulations ; and that

M^r. Thomas Walley
Ellis Gray Esq^r.
Richard Devens Esq^r.
James Bowdoin Jun^r. Esq^r.
Cap^t. Amasa Davis
M^r. John Lucas
M^r. Leonard Jarvis

be a Committee for that purpose

[325.] On a Motion
Voted, that a Committee be appointed to apply to such Merchants Shopkeepers, Distillers, and others as withhold their Goods from Sale, as also to such Merchants as Ask for or sell their Wares at more than the regulated prices, and to inform them, that they must strictly comply with the *Regulations* or have their Names returned to the Town or the Committee of Thirteen

Voted, that

Col°. Isaac Sears
Capt. Willson
Mr. Leonard Jarvis
Capt. John Ballard
Mr. Enoch Brown
Mr. Benjamin Edes
Mr. William Hoskins
Ezekiel Price Esqr.

be a Committee for the Purpose aforesaid

And said Committee are also directed to waite upon the Continental Agents, and all the whole Sale Merchants and Trader's together with the Distillers, and request of them an Account of the Goods and Merchandize they have sold since the Regulations were come into, the Names of the Purchasers, and the Quantities sold them with the prices, and also that they do not make Sale of more than on hhd of Sugar to any one Person, and such only as usually sell those Articles in this Town or State, except to Sugar Bakers, who shall bona fide declare, that what they purchased is for boiling only and not for Sale

[326.] The Town being acquainted that some Persons of Bilrica had sold Rye Bread in Boston at a higher rate than the regulated price and ——— White Esqr. of Bilrica being in this Meeting

Voted, that the said Mr. White be desired to use his Influence with the Committee of his Town, that instead of Bread the People of that Town would send their Grain or Meal to this Market for the supply of the Inhabitants at this time of scarcity

On a Motion Voted, that the Selectmen be directed to publish and Advertizement acquainting the Publick that Slaughter Houses are provided by the Town for the accommodation of the People in the Country who may send their Creatures to this Market for the Supply of the Inhabitants

On a Motion Voted, that the Town will countenance and support all those who shall give information to the Committee of thirteen of any Violations of the Regulations

Adjourned to Thursday next being the 23d. Day of September Inst. 3. O.Clock Afternoon

Thursday the 23d. Day of September 3. O.Clock Afternoon met according to Adjournment

The Honourable Samuel Adams Esqr. the Moderator of this Meeting, having acquainted the Town that he was prevented from giving his Attendance — the Inhabitants were directed to bring in their Votes for a Moderator Pro. Temᵉ. and the same being brought in & sorted it appeared that

[**327.**] Ezekiel Price Esqʳ.

was chosen

Colᵒ. Sears Chairman of the Committee appointed to waite upon the Merchants, Traders and Distillers, and Capᵗ. Willson another of the Committee being at the Meeting Reported in part; and were desired to Report again at the Adjournment of the Meeting — Ezekiel Price Esqʳ. having desired to be excused from serving on the forementioned Committee, he was accordingly excused, and it was

Voted, that Deacon Freeman
Mʳ. Isaac Pierce
Mʳ. John Kneeland
Mʳ. Joseph Shed
John Lucas Esqʳ.

be added to the Committee

Voted, that the above Committee make inquirey who have got Salt, and New England Rum, and not only as to what the Distillers, have by them, but also for whom they distilled Rum, and the quantity distilled

The Report of the Committee to inforce the Regulations &c was laid before the Town

On a Motion — Voted, that
Mʳ. Enoch Brown
Mʳ. Samuel Brick
Mʳ. Thomas Dennie

be a Committee to confer with Majʳ. Ruggles and Others with respect to what may be the best Method [**328.**] To be taken with the Cattle and Sheep which are coming into this Town upon the Hoof, for the supply of the Inhabitants — and Report their opinion at the Adjournment

On a Motion made Voted, that this Meeting be Adjourned to Monday next the 27ᵗʰ. Day of Septemʳ. 3. O.Clock Afternoon

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

Monday the 27ᵗʰ. Day of September 3. O.Clock Afternoon — Met according to Adjournment

The Honᵇˡᵉ. Samuel Adams Esqʳ. the Moderator of this Meeting and Ezekiel Price Esqʳ. chosen Moderator Pro. Temᵉ. being engaged in such buissiness as prevents the Attendance of either of them — the Inhabitants were therefore directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for a Moderator Pro. Temᵉ. and the same being brought in and sorted, it appear'd that

John Rowe Esqʳ.

was chosen

The Committee to wait upon the Merchants, Traders, Distillers &c — Report

That they have waited upon several Merchants and as many Shopkeepers as the time Assigned them would admit — that Messʳˢ. Bruce Pierce Somes, Fellows, Prentice &c. will strictly adhere to the Regulating Act — Mʳ. John Mollineux told us that he was obliged to consult his Brother William, whome we met soon after, & were treated by him with indelicate Language the effect of high passion

[329.] Deacon Mason and M^r. Joseph Barrel will retail their Goods as regulated, but are not disposed to sell by whole Sale — Jonathan Amory will do the same, but as to rendering an Account of Goods sold by whole sale he must think of it

Miss^rs. Whitwell Biggelow, Winslow, the said Barrel Kneeland Prentice Joseph Pierce, Davis. J Coolidge and M^r. Carns Baker, Houghton, Brown, Ford, Jonsey are Shopkeepers who have conformed and mean to continue selling — M^rs. Molly Williams replys, she cannot determin whether she will conform, as the Merch^ts. have raised their Goods, — M^rs. Curles answered, that she did not know, whether she should sell at the regulated prices or no — many Stores were called upon the Owners not within — waited upon the Agents, Viz^t. Cap^t. Bradford Mess^rs. Brown and Varnum — Mess^rs. Clark and Nightingale, from whom we have received Account of Sales — Called upon the Distillers with the Town Resolves — Mess^rs. Barret and Hall, Johonnot, Hill, Perkins, Hoskins, Amory, Fellows, Bryant, Porter, Cable — Joseph Pierce, Sen^r. & Jun^r. Scollay, Wells, Rand, Bradshaw and Parker, Hall Larkin, Hendley Clark & Sloon from some of whom we have returns made of Stock on hand

M^r. James Perkins not in Town, the Foreman says he has on hand 21 hhds Molasses 4 — or 500 Gall^o. Rum and 10 Cisterns set

We find after strict inquirey and candid answers from the Distillers, there is not that quantity of Rum and Molasses the Town might have **[330.]** Supposed — With regard to Salt — on Bells Wharf, at Robins Store are 12 Casks said to be the property of M^r. King

Mess^rs. Hubbards and Green will supply the Town with 150 bushels Salt. Mess^rs. Wheelwright and Barnard with 23 Bushels Salt Cap^t. Ketchum with 200 Bush^s., Pitts and Call — with 2 hh^ds., D^o. Isaac Smith Esq^r. with 10 or 15 bush^l. occaisonly — M^r. Thomas Russell will supply 500 Gall^s. Rum

The Article of Cotton Wool is explained by the Naval Officer Maj^r. Barber

The Committee agreed with Cap^t. Law of Brigg^t. Neassity September 24^th. for 700 bush^s. Turk^s. Island and 1300 bushels Caidz Salt at nine pounds to be delivered the 27^th. Upon application for delivery of some — Cap^t. Law replied he had Sold it, to Cap^t. Ketchup and M^r. Cook

The foregoing Report having been read, after some consideration the Question was put — Viz^t. Whether the Town approve of this Report so far as the Committee have proceeded — Passed in the Affermative

On a Motion the — Question was put — "Whether the Report be recommitted — Passed in the Negative

On a Motion made Voted that it is the Sense of the Town that no Salt, Flour & Grain shall be sold, unless by retail, untill, it shall be Offered to the Town Committee for purchasing said Articles

[331.] On a Motion Voted, that Mr. Love and Capt. Kitchen, be desired to Attend the Town Meeting at the Adjournment

Voted, that the Meeting be Adjourned to to Morrow Morning — and the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

Septembr 28. 9. OClock Forenoon Met according to Adjournment

Mr. Brown and Mr. Sumner being in the Meeting were desired to inform the Town respecting the Salt on board Capt: Loves Vessel — they according gave information, that Six hhds: of the Salt of Nineteen hhds: on the Wharff last Evening, were removed from the Wharff last Night

Mr. Cook being in the Meeting acquainted the Inhabitants, that the Six hhds: of Salt said to be taken from the Wharff, were rolled into a Store, and would be forth coming

Capt. Kitchen being in the Meeting was asked whether he would Sell his Salt to the Town whether in Store or without only reserving 100 hhds for his own use — on which he gave his Answer in the Affermative

Resolved, that the Town accept of the thirteen hundred hhds of Salt offered by Mr. Cook at the regulated price

On a Motion. Voted, that

Capt. Alexander Willson
Capt. Elias Parkman
Capt. John Williams
Capt. John Matchet
Majr. James Melvil
[332.] Colo. Edward Procter
Capt. Gilbert Speekman

be a Committee to go on board every Vessell in this Harbour, and examin what is a board and Report to the Town

Voted, that Colo. Barber the Navil Officer for this Port, be desired to accompaney the Committee in this Search

On a Motion the Question was put Vizt. — Whether A publick Store shall be opend in this Town, for the Supply of the Inhabitants of this Town and State" — which passed in the Affermative — also

Voted that a Committee be appointed to devise ways and means for procuring the Articles wanted and Report the same as also what Regulations they may Judge necessary for carrying the Measures into execution

Voted, that Colo. Sears
Samuel Barret Esqr.
Mr. William Foster
Capt. Amasa Davis
Ellis Gray Esqr.
Leonard Jarvis
John Rowe Esqr.

be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

Voted, that the Selectmen be a Committee to confer with a Committee from the Town of Weymouth relative to Supplying the Town with Fire Wood to Report at the Adjournment

The Selectmen soon Reported Whereupon

[**333.**] Voted, that the Consideration of said Report be referred to to Morrow Morning 9. O.Clock, and that the Committee of Weymouth be informed thereof by the Selectmen

Adjourned to to Morrow Morning 9.O.Clock Forenoon

Wednesday September 29th. — 9. O Clock Forenoon met according to Adjournment

The Report of the Committee relative to Fire Wood again read and is as follows Vizt.

The Selectmen a Committee to confer with Capt. White and Mr. Bales, a Committee from Weymouth relative to supplying this Town with Wood — Report That the Price of Wood landed at Boston be as follows — Vizt.

Oake Wood from Weymouth, Braintree Hingham &c. by Water	£20	p. Cord
Walnut Wood	23	p. do.
Pine Wood	13.10/	p. do.

p order J. Scollay

The foregoing Report having been considered — the Question was put — Whether the Report be accepted — passed in the Affermative

On a Motion made Voted, that forty Shillings p Cord be added to the foregoing prices of Wood, for all such Wood as shall be brought into this Town by Land and delivered at the Doors of the Purchasers — also

Voted, that four Persons be appointed Sealers of all Wood brought in by Land to this Town

[**334.**] The Town having Voted, that a Publick Magazine be opened for the Reception and delivery of Freight Articles, of consumption for the supply of the Inhabitants of this Town and State — The Committee appointed to devise ways and means for carrying said Vote into effect beg leave to Report

That a Sum not less than sixty thousand Pounds, be raised for this Purpose by Subscription of Money and Stock as may be most agreeable to the Subscriber the same to be vested in the following Articles Vizt. Tea Sugar Rum Molosses Coffee Chocolat Salt Cotten

That the Buisiness be conducted by such Persons as the Subscribers shall appoint, and on such terms as they shall agree upon the prices not to exceed those Stated by the Convention at Concord; the profits if any to be to the Subscribers in proportion to the Sum Subscribed by each, they take upon themselves all Riskes —

That in order to the full Supply of the Magazine aforesaid the Several Persons known to be possesed of the Articles above specefied be requested to attend the Meeting of the Town and enquired of whether they will Subscribe for this purpose and to what amount and whether in Money or in Stock — After which the Subscription to be circulated among the Merchants, and Traders at large

Your Committee are of Opinion that the equity of this Mode of supply and its being every Subscribers Interest to ingage in it Will insure it general Support — all in & order

ISAAC SEARS Chairman

The foregoing Report having been read and considered — [335.] The Question was put Whether the same shall be excepted — Paſsed in the Affermative, unanimously

The Committee to go on board Vessells and make search — Reported —

On a Motion, Voted, that

Ellis Gray Esq^r^.
M^r^. Thomas Walley
M^r^. Bowdoin
M^r^. Nathan Fraizer
M^r^. Edward Edes
Col^o^. Thomas Crafts
Cap^t^. Henley

be a Committee to waite upon the Merchants &c and to request their Attendance at the Meeting this Afternoon, in order to acquaint the Town, whether they will subscribe — towards the furnishing a Publick Store with Articles for the supply of the Inhabitants

Adjourned to 3 O.Clock Afternoon

3 O.Clock P. M. Met according to Adjournment

M^r^. Rowe the Moderator Pro. Tem^o^. not being able to attend, the Town made choice of

M^r^. Leonard Jarvis

as a Moderator Pro. Tem^o^.

A Pamphlet lately published by Congress respecting our Currency &c — was read to the Inhibitants by the Town Clark

Voted, that M^r^. Enoch Brown
M^r^. John Kneeland
Cap^t^. Alexander Willson
M^r^. William Hoskins

[336.] Be a Committee to receive and Store the Salt that has been purchased

On a Motion made Voted, that
M^r^. Leonard Jarvis
James Bowdoin Jun^r^. Esq^r^.
M^r^. Thomas Walley

be a Committee to procure Subscription for the Magazine

Adjourned to Thursday next. 9. O.Clock Forenoon

Thursday September 30^th^. 9 : O :Clock Before Noon, Met according to Adjournment

On a Motion made Voted, that

Cap^t^. John Ballard
M^r^. Jeremiah Belknap
M^r^. Joseph Shed

be a Committee to call upon such Persons as have Salt and to inform them that the Town have occasion for it, for the supply of the Inhabitants

It was motioned that the Vote passed by the Town Yesterday respecting appointing four Measurers of Wood, be reconsidered, and that the Selectmen appoint but one Measurer for the Wood brought in by Land

On a Motion Voted, that the Subscribers for a Publick Magazine be authorized and impowered to make use of the Granary as a Publick Store if they should have occasion

[337.] On a Motion Voted, that

Cap^t. Matchet
Col^o. Jabez Hatch
Cap^t. Job Prince

be a Committee to go round to the Owners of Vessels and *solist* their sending them to the Eastward for Wood, their

On a Motion Voted, that the stated price of Flour brought into this Market be Thirty Pounds p hundred which is conformable to the price of Wheat affixed by the Convention

A Motion made and carried that the Vote directing the Selectmen to appoint a Sealer of Wood be reconsidered, and that the Town now proceed to appoint a Sealer

Deacon Thomas Bayley

was accordingly appointed a Sealer of Wood brought into this Town by Land

Voted, that the Sealer of Wood receive of the Purchaser, two Shillings p Load for the Trouble of Measuring and the Charge of a Certificate to be delivered him

Whereas it is the wish and expectation of the Town that the Convention to meet at Concord the first Wednesday of October for the purpose of affixing prices upon Merchandize and Country produce should as soon as possible after their Meeting, State the price of Wood brought into this Town by Land and Water, to be Landed at the Wharffs or **[338.]** Brought to the Doors of the Purchasers; and Whereas some Persons from the Price of Wood not being as yet stated are shamfully taken advantage of the distress of the Inhabitants for want of Fuel by asking enormous prices for their Wood — therefore Voted, that such Persons as shall hereafter sell or give more than twenty two pounds p Cord for Wood brought in by Land to the Door of the Purchaser their Names shall be returned to the Committee of Thirteen, that they may be published as Violaters of the Regulations of the Convention and this Town, and the Names of the Sellers sent to the Committee of their respective Towns to be dealt with as they shall Judge proper.

Voted, that no one presume to purchase a Load of Wood without taking a Certificate certifying the Quantity contained in the load purchased

Voted, that the Town Clerk cause One hundred and fifty of the preceeding Votes respecting Wood to be printed, and pasted up at different parts of the Town

The Article in the Warrant Viz^t. To determine what shall be done with the Towns share of the produce of the Land at New Boston" — read whereupon

Voted, that this matter be left to the Selectmen to do thereon as they may Judge to be for the Interest of the Town

[**339.**] On a Motion Voted, that the Constables of the Town be directed to require the attendance of the Hatters who had signed a publication relative to Sarson Belcher, at the Adjournment of this Meeting

Adjourned to Fryday next 3. O.'Clock Afternoon —

Fryday October 1. 3. O.Clock P: M: Met according to Adjournment

The Moderator Pro. Tem^{o}. being absent the Town made choice of another by written Votes, when it appeared that

Isaac Sears Esq^{r}.

was chosen unanimously

Col^{o}. Brown having acquainted the Town, that a quantity of Wood might be had at Reading, and brought to the Landing at Malden — it was

Voted, that Cap^{t}. Ballard
Col^{o}. Barber

be a Committee to confer with said Brown in that Matter

The Hatters who had signed a publication in support of Sarson Belcher who had been published as a Violator of the Regulations, being required to attend instead of attending, they appointed a Committee of their Body, who appeared in Town Meeting

The Town declining to hear the Committee, the Hatters were again required to give their Attendance

[**340.**] On a Motion made Voted, that the Selectmen be directed to waite upon the Board of War, and, that the Stores they have in the Granary may be immediately removed

Benjamin Clark Constable was turned out of Meeting by the order of the Moderator for disorderly behaviour

Voted, that the Names of all those Hatters who have vindicated Sarson Belcher in a late publication, except such as shall retract their doings before the Committee of Thirteen, by Monday next, shall be published by said Committee in the next Thursdays Papers, as Violaters of the Regulations, and deserving the resentment of the People

Voted, that a simular Vote with what was published respecting Cap^{t}. Alexander Mackay be published in the several News Papers respecting Sarson Belcher

Then the Meeting was dissolved

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, duly qualified and legally warned, in publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall Tuesday the 19 Day of October 9. O.Clock Forenoon

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read

[**341.**] The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for a Moderator of this Meeting and the same being brought in and sorted, it appeared that

The Hon^{ble}. Samuel Adams Esq^{r}.

was chosen unanimously

The Article in the Warrant Viz^t. To consider the request of the Overseers of the Poor, that further provision may be made for the supply of the Almshouse"— was read and considered whereupon

Voted, the Sum of Ten thousand Pounds be granted in Addition to the £6000. granted the 12th. of March last out of the Tax already Voted to defray the charges of the Town be appropriated for sole use of the Almshouse

Voted, that the Town Treasurer be and he hereby is directed and impowered to borrow a Sum of Money not exceeding Ten thousand Pounds to be paid to the orders of the Overseers of the Poor for the support of the Poor in the Almshouse for which he is to issue his negotiable Notes on Interest payable to the Lenders out of the present Tax; no part of said Sum to be made use of for any Other purpose — also

Voted, that the Overseers of the Poor with such Persons as they may choose, be a Committee to procure Subscriptions for the ten Thousand Pounds, to be appropriated out of the present Tax for the Use of the Almshouse, for which the Treasurer is to issue his Negotiable Notes carrying Interest payable to the Lenders in Current Money out of the present Tax

[**342.**] The Articles in the Warrant Viz^t. — To consider the expediency of opening a Fish Market on Dock Square," was read whereupon a Motion was made and carried that the consideration thereof shall be referred till after the Report of the Committee at Concord shall be acted upon

The Committee of Convention having Reported Agreeable to a Motion made — the Meeting was Adjourned to 3. O.Clock Afternoon

The foregoing Report having been read after some due consideration of the same the Question was put Viz^t. whether the Town will receive and adopt the Resolutions and proceedings Aforesaid and so far as in their Power will take every effectual Measure to carry them into execution — Passed in the Affermative — but one dissentient previous to putting the Question a Motion was made that the further consideration of the Report be refferred for a fortnight which passed in the Negative almost unanimously — See particulars as entered at large in the Fair Quarto Book of Town Meetings from Page 199. to 220

On a Motion, Voted, that a Committee of Merchants be appointed to affix the prices of European Goods, Wine &c Agreeable to the Resolves of the Convention

John Rowe Esq^r.
M^r. Leonard Jarvis
Hon^{ble}. William Phillips Esq^r.
Stephen Higginson Esq^r.
M^r. Nathan Frazier
Ellis Gray Esq^r.
[**343.**] M^r. Hammond Brimmer
Samuel Austin Esq^r.
Nathaniel Appleton Esq^r.

be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

Voted, that the Committee of Thirteen appointed to see the Resolves of the former Convention and this Town carried into execution be the Committee for carrying the Resolves of the late Convention into effect

Moved and Voted, that the Selectmen be requested to appoint a Measurer of, Wood brought into this Town by Land

On a Motion Voted, that the several Committees which were Appointed, to procure Subscriptions for the Loan Office, be desired to call upon the respective Subscribers, receive their Money, and lodge the same in the Loan Office there to take Loan Office Certifficates and return them to the respective Subscribers; and said Committee are requested to procure further Subscriptions for the Loan Office, there to take Loan Office Certificates, and return them to the respective Subscribers; and said Comm^{ee}. are requested to use their utmost influence to procure further Subscriptions, being in the Opinion of this Town a Matter of the last consequence

Voted, that the Town Clerk serve the Chairman of the several Committees with a Copy of the preceeding Vote

Maj^r. Melvill by his desire was excused from serving any longer as one of the Committee of Thirteen and Cap^t. John Ballard was chosen in his room

[344.] Col^o. Daws excused by his desire from the Committee to procure Subscriptions and M^r. John Tileston was appointed in his room

The Article in the Warrant relative to a Fish Market read, whereupon Voted, that the Consideration thereof be referred to the Adjournment

Voted, that it be earnestly recommended to the Merchants, Shopkeepers and Traders of this Town to open their Stores and Shops for the supply of our Bretheren in the Country and the Inhabitants of this Town and that they shall at least by Retail

Voted, that the Clerk be directed to publish in the several Papers the foregoing Votes relative to the Report of the Committee appointed to attend the late Convention at Concord

Moved and carried that in order to give the Committee to affix prices time to Report that this Meeting be Adjourned to Tuesday next 10. O.Clock. A: M: and this Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

Tuesday, October 26th. 10. O.Clock Forenoon, met according to Adjournment

The Hon^{ble}. Samuel Adams Esq^r. the Moderator of the Meeting Unable to attend; the Inhabitants withdrew and brought in their Votes for a Moderator Pro. Tem^o. and the same being brought in and sorted it appeared that

[345.] Stephen Higginson Esq^r.

was chosen Moderator Pro. Tem^o. and took the Seat accordingly

Several of the Committee of Thirteen, appointed to see the Resolves of the Convention &c executed, being out of Town, or unable to attend

Messrs. Isaac Peirce
Edward Green
Christopr. Clark
Benjamin Edes
Adams Colson

were chosen in the room of Capt. Phillips, Colo. Edward Proctor, Henry Prentice, Samuel Ruggles and Dr. Charles Jarvis

The Committee to affix Prices on European Merchandize Wine &c Reported, and after the same was read — a Motion was made and passed, that the said Report be Recommitted

The Article in the Warrant Vizt. " To consider the expediency of erecting a Fish Market in Dock Square was again read, and the same having been duly considered, it was Voted, that it be left to the Selectmen to build or permit to be built as many Fish Stalls over the Water near Dock Square, as they shall Judge necessary, and to affix such prices on Fish, or make such Agreements with those who may be ready to supply this Market with Fish till Spring, as they shall Judge reasonable, and for the benefit of the Inhabitants

On a Motion made Voted, that a Committee be now appointed to obtain Supplies of the Gentlemen [**346.**] In Trade, for the supply of the Publick Store — and that

Mr. Thomas Walley
Caleb Davis Esqr.
Stephen Higginson Esqr.
Henry Hill Esqr.
Colo. Thomas Crafts

be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid — And the Committee are desired, earnestly to request of those Persons who have the Necessaries of Life, that they will freely supply the Inhabitants at least by Retail with such Necessaries

On a Motion made Voted, that when this Meeting shall be Adjourned, it shall be to this Day fortnight being the 9th. Day of November next 10. OClock Forenoon

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

Tuesday November 9. 10 O.Clock Forenoon Met according to Adjournment

Samuel Adams Esqr. the Moderator and Stephen Higginson Esqr. Moderator Pro Temo:

The Honble. Samuel Adams Esqr. the Moderator and Mr. Higginson the Moderator Pro Temo. being out of Town the Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes, for a Moderator Pro Temo. and the same being brought in and sorted it appeared that

John Tudor Esqr.

was chosen Moderator of the Meeting Pro Temo.

[**347.**] The Committee appointed to affix the prices of European Merchandize &c &c

Reported verbally — That they had spent considerable time in considering the Buisiness Assigned them by the Town, and found it to be impracticable to affix particular prices to the various

Articles of European Merchandize, or to do any thing more than the Late Convention at Concord had done in that matter

On a Motion made Voted, that the Honble. Thomas Cushing Esqr. and James Gorham Esqr. who were of the Number of Commissioners from the New England Colonies who lately met at Hartford in order to consider the expediency of Stating Prices &c — be desired to Attend this Meeting, and that a Committee be now chosen to wait upon them for that purpose

Voted, that Mr. Christopher Clark be a Committee to waite upon those Gentleman

Mr. Cushing and Mr. Gorham at the disire of the Town attended accordingly, and at the request of the Inhabitants acquainted them with the Proceedings of the Convention at Hartford relative to the consideration of the expediency of stating prices &c

On a Motion made Voted, that this Meeting be Adjourned to Wednesday the 10 Inst. — 3. O.Clock P: M: and it was accordingly Adjourned

Wednesday the 10 Day of November 3. O.Clock Afternoon — met according to Adjournment

[**348.**] The Committee appointed to procure Subscriptions for the purpose of furnishing the Town, Magazine with Grain, West India Goods, being called upon to Report the Sums that had been Subscribed. Mr. Walley one of the Committee laid the Subscription Paper on the Table, which was read and there delivered back to Mr. Walley

John Rowe Esqr. and Mr. Walley two of the Committee chosen by the Subscriber for supplying in a Publick Store — Reported, That there had been receiv'd into the Publick Store since the 6th. Day of October last

906 Bushels of Indian Corn
207 Ditto of Rye
88 Ditto of Indian Meal
15 Ditto of Rye Meal
60 Ditto of Wheat
2 Tons of Flour

That besides the above, the Store Keeper Colo. Hurd has engaged upward of 300 Bushels of Indian Corn to be brought in very soon — that the greatest part of the above mentioned Grain has been delivered out again in small parcells to at least 1500 — different Persons in the Town of Boston — that had there been a sufficiency of Salt and other Merchandize turned into the Publick Store as was expected, the Granary might have been filled with Provisions before this some very considerable quantities of Grain and Flour, having been brought into Town, and offered at the Publick Store, which was afterwards purchased by other Persons who could pay a Larger proportion of Salt, Sugar, Tea, and Rum than could be supplied from the Publick Store [**349.**] That what Money now remains in the hands of the Store Keeper arising from the Sale of Salt Sugar, Grain &c cannot be invested in any sort of Merchandize, without giving 50 p Ct. differance in price — that a Large quantity of Salt, Sugar Tea and Rum had been sold from the Publick Store, besides, what has been supplied the Country People for Grain, and to others who have brought to this Market Beef, Mutton &c &c as can be attested by Mess^rs^. Ballard Hews &c

A Motion was made, "that the sense of the Town be taken whether the Publick Store shall be kept open" — and the Question being accordingly put — Passed in the Affermative

On a Motion — Voted, that the Committee appointed to procure Subscriptions for the Publick Store, be desired to call upon all those Subscribers who have not fulfilled their engagements, and to require that they do it immediately — also

Voted, that they use their endaviours to procure further Subscriptions for the supply of the said Store

Moved that this Meeting be desolved

And the Meeting was accordingly dessolved

At a Meeting of the Freeholders, & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned, in publick Town Meeting Assembled at Fanuiel Hall November the 24th. 1779 Three O.Clock Afternoon

[350.] The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for a Moderator of the Meeting and the same being brought in and Sorted it appeared that

John Tudor Esqr.

was chosen

The Article in the Warrant Vizt.

To consider and determine upon Measures for procuring the Town proportion of Clothing for the Contenental Army Agreeable to a late Resolve of the General Assembly" — was read — whereupon

Voted, that John Rowe Esqr.
Colo. Thomas Crafts
Jonathan Williams Esqr.
Mr. Samuel Eleot Junr.
Mr. Nathan Frazier

be a Committee for that Purpose, and to Report at the Adjournment

The Petition of Mr. Samuel Hunt Master of the South Grammer School, that he may be allowed for his services since August last, and that it may be determined what Sum shall be granted for an Assistant to said School" — was read, whereupon

Voted, that a Committee be appointed to consider said Petition and what may be proper Allowance for the other School Masters. and to Report at the Adjournment

Voted, that John Lowell Esqr.
Ezekiel Price Esqr.
Thomas Crafts Esqr.
Ellis Gray Esqr.
Mr. Nicholas Bowes

be a Committee for that purpose

[351.] The Article in the Warrant Vizt. "To consider what

Measures shall be taken for the repairing the Mill & Draw Bridges now became dangerious, the Proprietors of the Mills, having declined doing it" — was read, whereupon

Voted, that the Selectmen be and hereby are appointed a Committee to take this Article into Consideration & Report at the Adjournment, what they Judge best to be done thereon

Adjourned to Tuesday next 10. OClock Forenoon

Tuesday November 30th. — 10. O.Clock, Beforenoon — Met according to Adjournment

Deacon Tudor in the Chair

The Selectmen a Committee appointed by the Town, to confer with the Mill Owners relative to the Repairs of the Mill Bridges beg leave to Report

That they have met with the Proprietors of the Mills, and have obtained their Assurance, that those Bridges shall be immediately so repared as to prevent danger to Carriages &c. passing over them, and that as soon as the Season will permit they purpose to give them a more thorough Repair

J. Scollay, Chairman p Order

The foregoing Report having been read, it was Voted that the same be accepted

The Committee appointed to consider Mr. Hunts Request, and what may be proper Allowances for the other School Masters, have considered these [352.] Matters, and Report as their Opinion — That there be allowed to the several School Masters for Six Months service commencing on the first Day of September last the following Sums respectively Vizt.

To Mr. Hunt	£1800
To Mr. Holbrook	1500
To Mr. Tileston	1500
To Mr. Carter	1500
To Mr. Bently	1500

J. Lowell p Order

The foregoing Report having been read and considered — the Question was put Vizt. — Whether the same shall be accepted — Passed in the Affermative

On a Motion, Voted, that a Committee be appointed to consider & Report what they Judge may be a suitable allowance for an Usher for the South Grammar School

On a Motion, Voted, that the Committee appointed the 24t. Inst. to consider proper allowances for the School Masters, be the Committee for the purpose aforesaid

The Committee appointed by the Town to consider the Article in the Warrant relative to procuring Clothing for the Continental Army Report as follows

That part of the Clothing can be procured, but your Committee after the utmost enquirey find it at present impracticable to procure the whole, and what can be procured cannot be obtained, without the Cash being paid immediately and those Articles will be very dear

John Rowe p Order

[353.] The above Report having been read, it was Voted, that the same be accepted

On a Motion Voted, that a Committee be now appointed to procure Subscriptions for a Sum not exceeding £30,000 for the purpose of procuring the Towns proportion of Clothing for the Continental Army, and the Town Treasurer is hereby directed and impowered to Give his Negotiable Notes on Interest to the respective Lenders for the Sum Subscribed — also

Voted, that Col°. Thomas Crafts
Mr. Thomas Hitchborne
M . Henry Hill
Ebenezer Hancock Esqr.
Mr. John Kneeland
be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

It was moved & Voted, that when this Meeting is Adjourned, it shall to Monday next 3. O.Clock P: M: being the 6th. of December

Voted, that the Town Meeting Adjournment be published in ye. News Papers

Then the Meeting was Adjourned

Monday December 6th. — 3 O.Clock Afternoon — Met according to Adjournment

Deacon Tudor in the Chair

The Committee appointed to Consider and Report a suitable allowance to Mr. Hunts present Assistant as also what mayebe proper allowance for an Usher to the South Grammer School

[354.] Report that Mr. Hunts be allowed and paid out of the Town Treasurery the Sum of four hundred & Seventy Five pounds in full for an Assistant for the Nine Months past — And the future Allowance for the Usher of the South Grammer School, be one half of the Sum allowed the Master

Ezkel. Price p Order

The foregoing Report having been read and considered, the Question was put Vizt. Whether the Report shall be accepted Passed in the Affermative

The Committee appointed to procure Subscriptions for a Sum not exceeding £30,000 for the purpose of obtaining the Towns proportion of [Clothing] for the Continental Army — Reported, That they had as yet obtained but £500 — and should not be able to procure the Sum intended

On a Motion Voted, that this Meeting be Adjourned to, to Morrow 3. O.Clock Afternoon

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

Tuesday the 7th. Day of December 3. O.Clock Afternoon. Met according to Adjournment

The Article in the Warrant relative to procuring Clothing &c — was again taken up and considered whereupon Voted that

Col°. Thomas Crafts
Mr. Thomas Hitchborne
Mr. Henry Hill

[355.] Ebenezer Hancock Esqr.
Mr. John Kneeland

the Committee appointed at a late Meeting to procure Subscriptions for a Sum not exceeding £30,000 for the purpose of procuring the Towns proportion of Clothing for the Continental Army, be and hereby are desired to proceed in that buissiness, untill a Sum sufficient for the purpose is Subscribed; said Lenders to be repaid the respective Sums by them advanced, by a discount out of their present Tax — also

Voted, that David Jeffries Esqr. the Town Treasurer, be and he hereby is impower'd and directed, to give his negotiable Notes to the respective Subscribers, for the sum by them so Advanced for the purpose aforesaid payable out of the present Tax

On a Motion Voted, that the thanks of the Town be and hereby are given to John Tudor Esqr. the Moderator of this Meeting for dispatching the Buissness thereof

A Motion made and carried that this Meeting be dessolved

And the Meeting was accordingly Dissolved

[356.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston at Faneuil Hall on Tuesday the 1t. Day of February Anno Domini 1780

Warrant for calling the Meeting read when it appeared by the Return made by the Constables on said Warrant, that they had neglected to Warn one of the Wards

A Motion was then made, and it was accordingly Voted, that the Selectmen be desired to issue a warrant, on Thursday next 3. O.Clock Afternoon, And that the Constables be directed to Notify the Inhabitants without leaving printed Notifications

Then the Meeting was dissolved

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, duly qualified and legally warned in publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Thursday the 3d. Day of February 1780

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw, and bring in their Votes for a Moderator, and the same having been brought in and sorted, it appeared, that

The Honble. John Hancock Esqr. was chosen

[357.] General Hancock having desired to be excused from serving as Moderator on account of his health — he was excused, and the Votes, for another Person as Moderator being brought in and sorted, it appeared that

John Tudor Esqr.

was chosen Moderator of this Meeting

The Article in the Warrant Vizt. — To consider what Sum of Money shall be raised to defray, the necessary Charges and Expences of the Town" — was read, and considered whereupon

Voted, that the further Sum of Seventy thousand Pounds, in addition to the Sums already granted, be raised by a Tax upon Polls and Estates within this Town, for the relief of the Poor, and defrying other necessary Charges arising within this Town the ensuing Year

The Article of the Warrant Viz^{t}. "Of the request of the Assessors, that the Town would determine what they shall be paid a Day for their services to this time." — was read, whereupon

Voted, that the Assessors have Nine pounds, p Day for their services to this time

The Article in the Warrant Viz^{t}: — "To consider and determine whether the Watch at New Boston shall be reistablished" — was read and considered, whereupon

[358.] Voted, that the Selectmen be directed to Reinstate the Watch at West Boston

The Article in the Warrant Viz^{t}. "To consider the Request of the Town Treasurer that it may be determined, what Allowance may be proper to make him for past services" — was read, whereupon

Voted, that John Lowell Esq^{r}.
Ezekiel Price Esq^{r}.
Thomas Crafts Esq^{r}.
Ellis Gray Esq^{r}.
M^{r}. Nicholas Bowes

be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid to make Report as soon as may be

Then the Meeting was dessolved

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified & legally warned in publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 6th. Day of March 1780

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read

The Hon^{ble}. John Hancock Esq^{r}. was chosen Moderator of this Meeting by a unanimous Vote

The Committee appointed by the Town the 5th. of March last to apply to a proper Gentleman to **[359.]** Deliver an Oration the 5th. of March Ins^{t}. to perpetuate the memory of the horred Massacre perpetrated on the Evening of the 5th. of March 1770 by a Party of Soldiers under the Command of Cap^{t}. Thomas Preston of the 29th. Regiment — Reported

That having met together several times for the purposes mentioned in the Town Vote, they had unanimously made choice of M^{r}. Jonathan Mason Jun^{r}. to deliver an Oration on the 5th. of March Ins^{t}. who had accordingly accepted of that service

The foregoing Report having been made, the Question was put — Whether the same shall be accepted — Passed in the Affermative

Upon a Motion the Town took into consideration, what would be the best time to have the Oration pronounced; as also what place would be most suitable for the Purpose — whereupon

Voted, that the Oration be delivered at the Old Brick Meeting House, the Hall not being capacious enough to receive to the Inhabitants that attended upon the occasion

Voted, that Col°. Tudor
Col°. Palfrey
Ebenezer Hancock Esq^r.
be a Committee to wait upon Jonathan Mason, and acquaint him that it is the desire of the Town that the Oration may be delivered at the Old Brick Meeting **[360.]** House. 12. O.Clock this Day — as also to ask leave of the Committee of said Church for the use of that Building

On a Motion made

Voted, that the Selectmen be directed to order the several Bells in the Town to be tolled from one quarter of an Hour after 9. untill 10. O.Clock

Adjourned to the Old Brick Meeting House 12. O.Clock

The Town met at the Old Brick Meeting House 12. O.Clock according to Adjournment

The Committee appointed to wait upon M^r. Jonathan Mason Jun^r. to acquaint him with the Vote of the Town respecting the time and Place for the delivery of an Oration — Reported

An *Oration* to commemorate the horred Massacre of the Fifth of March 1770 and to impress upon the Minds of the Citizens, the ruinous tendency of standing Armies, being placed in Free and Populous Cities. &c. was delivered by M^r. Jonathan Mason Jun^r. to a large and crowded Audience and received by them with great Applause

On a Motion Voted, that
The Hon^ble. John Hancock Esq^r.
William Cooper
Ezekiel Price Esq^r.
M^r. Bartho°. Kneeland
William Tudor Esq^r.
[361.] John Lowell Esq^r.
Ellis Gray Esq^r.
be and hereby are appointed a Committee to wait upon M^r. Jonathan Mason Jun^r. to thank him for the *spirited and elegant Oration* delivered by Him at their request, in commemoration of the horred Massacre perpetrated on the Evening of the 5^th. of March 1770. by a Party of Soldiers of the 29^th. Regiment under the Command of Cap^t. Thomas Preston, and to request of him a Copy thereof for the Press.

On a Motion made

Voted, that The Hon^ble. Samuel Adams Esq^r.
The Hon^ble. John Pitts Esq^r.
The Hon^ble. John Hancock Esq^r.
John Lowell Esq^r.
M^r. Jonathan Mason Jun^r.
M^r. Bartho°. Kneeland
Harbottle Dorr Esq^r.
be and hereby are appointed a Committee to apply to a proper Gentleman, to deliver an Oration on the 5^th. of March next to perpetuate the memory of the horred Massacre perpetrated on the Evening of the 5^th. of March 1770. by a Party of Soldiers of the

29th. Regiment, under the Command of Capt. Thomas Preston, and to impress upon our Minds the ruinous tendency of Standing Armies being plac'd in Free and populous Cities in a time of Peace; and the necessity of such noble Exertions in all future times as the Inhabitants of the Town then made, whereby the designs of the Conspirators against the Publick Peace may be still frustrated

A Collection made for Mr. Monk who still languishes under the wounds received on 5th. March 1770 of £329 .. 8.. 1.

[362.] Then the Meeting was dessolved

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in Publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 13th. Day of March Anno Domini — 1780 — 9 O.Clock Before Noon

Prayer was made by the Revd. Dr. Cooper

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read

Sundry Laws enjoined to be read at this Meeting were accordingly — read

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for a Moderator of this Meeting, and the same being brought in and sorted it appeared that

The Honble. John Hancock Esqr

was chosen unanimously

Mr. William Cooper was chosen Town Clerk for the Year ensuing, and took the Oath of Office for the faithfull discharge of his Duty which Oath was administred by Mr. Justice Greenleaf

The Town having Determined by a Vote to choose Seven Selectmen, the Inhabitants were **[363.]** Then directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for that Number; and the same being brought in and sorted, it appeared that only the following Six Gentlemen Vizt.

John Scollay Esqr.
Capt. Gustavus Fellows
Harbottle Dorr Esqr.
Mr. Nathan Frazier
Ezekiel Price Esqr.
Mr. John Sweetser excused

were chosen Selectmen for the Year ensuing

The Votes being brought in for one Selectman and sorted it appeared that

Capt. William Mackay

was chosen

On a Motion made the Question was put Vizt. Whether the Town will now make choice of Nine Persons, as a Committee of Correspondence, Inspection and Safety for the Year ensuing" — Passed in the Affermative

The Votes being brought in and sorted, it appeared that

Mr. Ebenezer Dorr - - - excused
Mr. John Lowell - - - do.
Majr. Thomas Melvill - - do.

M^r. Henry Prentice - - d^o.
John Lucas Esq^r. - - - d^o.
Col^o. Josiah Waters - - d^o.
Cap^t. John Simkins - - d^o.
M^r: Jonathan Mason Ju^r.
M^r. Samuel Brick - - - d^o.

[**364.**] Were chosen a Committee of Correspondence Inspection and Safety for the Year ensuing

M^r. John Lowell having desired that he may be excused from serving on the Committee of Correspondence &c — he was accordingly excused

Adjourned to 3 O.Clock P.M.

3 O.Clock. P: M: Met according to Adjournment

The Votes being brought in and sorted it appeared that

Nathaniel Barber Esq^r. (excused) was chosen one of the Committee of Correspondence Inspection and Safety for the Year ensuing

Col^o. Waters one of the Gentleman chosen a Committee of Correspondence &c having desired to be excused from serving on that Committee he was accordingly excused

Nathaniel Barber Esq^r. another of the Gentlemen chosen to compose that Committee having desired to be excused from serving, for reasons given by him, he was accordingly excused

M^r. Henry Prentice of the same Committee was also by his desire excused from serving on the Committee

Maj^r. Thomas Melville another of the Committee having desired to be excused from serving, he was accordingly excused

[**365.**] The Inhabitants brought in their Votes for twelve Wardens, and upon sorting them it appeared that

Cap^t. Jonathan Davis
Col^o. Josiah Waters Ju^r.
M^r. William Brick excused
Cap$_t$. Nathaniel Curtis
M^r. Joshua Farrington
M^r. James Boyce
Cap^t. John Newell
M^r. William White
M^r. Joseph Pico
Alexander Edwards Esq^r.
M^r. Jacob Rhodes
M^r. John Boyls

were chosen Wardens for the Year ensuing

M^r. Samuel Brick one of the Gentleman chosen a Committee of Correspondence &c having as by his Letter on file, desired to be excused from serving on that Committee he was accordingly excused

The Inhabitants brought in their Votes for sixteen Fire Wards, and upon sorting them it appeared that

John Scollay Esq^r
William Cooper
Francis Shaw Esq^r.

Edward Procter Esq^{r}.
Cap^{t}. John Pulling
Caleb Davis Esq^{r}.
Ebenezer Hancock Esq^{r}.
M^{r}. Thomas Tileston
[366.] Andrew Syms Esq^{r}.
Cap^{t}. Gustavus Fellows
Joseph Webb Esq^{r}.
Cap^{t}. John Ballard
M^{r}. John Ballard
M^{r}. John Lowell
Maj^{r}. Thomas Melvill
Jabez Hatch Esq^{r}.

were chosen Fire Wards for the Year ensuing

M^{r}. John Sweetser chosen Selectman having desired that he might be excused from serving in that Office, as it must prevent his discharging the trust of an Overseer of the Poor: he was accordingly excused

Votes, for a County Treasurer, brought in, and being sealed up in Town Meeting were delivered to M^{r}. Constable Parks to be by him returned to the Court of General Sessions of the Peace at their next Meeting

The Inhabitants brought in their Votes for one Selectman in the room of M^{r}. John Sweetser, who was excused from serving, it appeared that

M^{r}. Tuttle Hubbard

was chosen a Selectman for the Year ensuing

The Inhabitants brought in their Votes for one Fire Ward, and upon sorting them it appeared that M^{r}. John Wintherop was chosen a Fire Ward for the Year ensuing

[367.] The Inhabitants brought in their Votes for twelve Overseers of the Poor, and upon sorting them it appeared that

The Hon^{ble}. William Phillips Esq^{r}.
Isaac Smith Esq^{r}.
M^{r}. Jonathan Mason
Cap^{t}. Samuel Partridge
M^{r}. Samuel Whitwell
M^{r}. John White
Edward Procter Esq^{r}.
William Powell Esq^{r}.
M^{r}. John Sweetser Jun^{r}.
Samuel Barret Esq^{r}.
M^{r}. Nicholas Bowes
Joseph Webb Esq^{r}.

were chose Overseers of the Poor for the Year ensuing

Maj^{r}. Edward Carnes

was chosen a Surveyor of Hemp, for the Year ensuing

Mess^{rs}. John Bulfinch
Joseph Ballard
Uriah Norcross
Benjamin White
Joseph Butler

Samuel Fenno
Henry Blaisdel
John Champney
Thomas Bayley
Edward Ranger
John Bell
Abraham Howard
James Rogers
Phillip Eckert
[368.] Benjamin Howard
Abijah Crane
Samuel Dellaway
Jonathan Stoddard
Thomas Uran
were chose — Surveyers of Boards, for the Year ensuing
Messrs. William Clough
Joseph Daniels
Samuel Dyer
Nathaniel Wales
William Brown
were chose Fence Viewers for the Year ensuing
Messrs. Daniel Parks
John Child - - - - - excused
Samuel Curtis
Nathan Green
Samuel Bangs
were chosen Sealers of Leather for the Year ensuing
Mr. Adam Colson
was chosen Informer of Deer for the Year ensuing
Messrs. Peter Cotta
Manassah Masters
William Corbit
Joshua Pico
William Raynard
John Owen
Samuel Hayley
William Parkman
Caleb Hayden
[369.] Samuel Bernard
William Freeland
were chosen Cullers of Staves for the Year ensuing
Messrs. Samuel Curtis
Jonathan Farnam
John Cade
were chose Hogreeves for the Year ensuing
Messrs. George Hamling
Isaac Tuckerman
were chose Haywards for the Year ensuing
Adjourned to Tuesday next 10. O'Clock Before Noon

Tuesday the 14 Day of March 10. O'Clock Before Noon — Met according to Adjournment

The Hon^{ble}. John Hancock Esq^{r}. the Moderator of this Meeting, having desired to be excused from further service as a Moderator, his duty requiring his attendance at the General Court he was accordingly excused for the present, and the Inhabitants were directed to bring in their Votes for a Moderator Pro Tem^{o}. and the same being brought in and sorted it appeared that

John Tudor Esq^{r}.

was chosen Moderator Pro Tem^{o}.

M^{r}. Dorr having desired to be excused by the Town from serving on the Committee of Correspondence &c. — he was accordingly excused

[370.] The Selectmen having requested an augmentation of their Number — the Question was put — Viz^{t}. Whether the Vote for choosing only seven Persons as Selectmen the present year, shall be reconsidered, which passed in the Affermative

A debate having arisen, relative to a time being assigned, for the choice of two Selectmen — a Motion was made "that the Vote for an Augmentation of that Body may be reconsidered" and the Question being put passed in the Affermative

Cap^{t}. John Simkins chosen on the Committee of Correspondence & having desired to be excused from serving — he was accordingly excused —

John Lucas Esq^{r}. having desired to be excused from serving on the Committee of Correspondence the year ensuing he was accordingly excused

On a Motion made Voted, that the choice of a Committee of Correspondence be referred to the Adjournment of this Meeting

A motion was made for reconsidering the Vote Affixing the number of the Committee of Correspondence at nine, and that thirteen be chosen at the Adjournment — a debate arising on the Motion, the Question was withdrawn

The Inhabitants having brought in their Votes, for a Town Treasurer it appeared that

[371.] David Jeffries Esq^{r}.

was chosen Town Treasurer for the Year ensuing unanimously

On a Motion made — the Question was put — Whether Collectors of Taxes shall be chose seperate from Constables — Passed in the Affermative

On a Motion made Voted, that the choice of Constables be referred over to the Adjournment of this Meeting

The Selectmen

were chosen Surveyers of High Ways for the Year ensuing

Jonathan Williams Esq^{r}.
M^{r}. John Sweetser Ju^{r}.
M^{r}. John White

were chosen Purchasers of Grain for the Year ensuing, and they are desired and impowered to give all needfull directions to the Keeper of the Granary, respecting the quantity of Grain to be sold, and affixing the prices thereof from time to time as occaison shall require; and the said Committee are desired and directed to cause all the Grain belonging to the Town to be ground at the new Mills near the Mill Bridge

John Tudor Esq^{r}.
John Lucas Esq^{r}.
M^{r}. John White
M^{r}. James Thwing
M^{r}. John Sweetser

were chosen Surveyers of Wheat for the Year ensuing

[372.] Mess^{rs}. Thomas Green
John Skinner

were chose Assay Masters for the year ensuing

Mess^{rs}. Samuel Clough for Ward N^{o}.	1.
Cap^{t}. John Lambert - - -	2.
James Sherman - - - -	3
John Cogswell - - - - -	4
John Dinsdel - - - - -	5
John Welch - - - - -	6
William Peke - - - - -	7
David Burrel - - - - -	8
Daniel Parks - - - - -	9
William Rogers - - - -	10
Ebenezer Hinkley - - - -	11
Charles Simpson - - - -	12

were chosen Scavingers for the Year ensuing

On a Motion, Voted, that

M^{r}. Jonathan Mason
M^{r}. John Sweetser
Samuel Barret Esq^{r}.

be a Committee to enquire respecting the payments made by the Collectors, into the State, County and Town Treasuries; and to make Report as soon as may be

On a Motion Voted, that the choice of Collectors be referred over to the Adjournment of this Meeting

Adjourned to 3. O'Clock P: M:

3 O.Clock P: M: met according to Adjournment

[373.] The following Persons were chose Clerks of the Market for the Year ensuing Viz^{t}.

Mess^{rs}. Benjamin Coolidge
Isaijah Doan
Samuel Fenno
Henry Newman
Thomas Cushing Jun^{r}.
Abraham Eustis
John Reed Jun^{r}.
John Codman Jun^{r}.
John Jackson
Thomas Lovel
John Carnes Jun^{r}.

On a Motion, Voted, that

Ellis Gray Esq^{r}.
Col^{o}. Josiah Waters
Col^{o}. Thomas Daws

Samuel Barret Esq^{r}.
Ezekiel Price Esq^{r}.
John Lucas Esq^{r}.

be a Committee to consider the time and manner in which the Assessors should set for abatements of Taxes; and to Report at the Adjournment

On a Motion Voted, that

Ellis Gray Esq^{r}.
Col^{o}. Josiah Waters Ju^{r}.
Col^{o}. Thomas Daws
Samuel Barret Esq^{r}.
Ezekiel Price Esq^{r}.
John Lucas Esq^{r}.

be a Committee to take into consideration the number of Assessors necesary to be chosen, and the manner in which they shall be paid

[**374.**] Moved and Voted, that the Selectmen be directed to lay before the Town at the next Town Meeting, the Sums they have drawn for on the Town Treasurer the last Year, distinguishing the Several services

On a Motion, Voted, that a Committee be appointed to make full inquirey into the Affairs of the Town, respecting its Debts, and Credits, and Report the same, as soon as may be, with the Names of the Persons to and from whom the several Sums are respectively due — also

Voted, that Thomas Dawes Esq^{r}.
Col^{o}. Josiah Waters
M^{r}. Herman Brimmer
M^{r}. Joseph Pierce
Ellis Gray Esq^{r}.

be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

Ebenezer Storer Esq^{r}.
M^{r}. Samuel Brick
M^{r}. John Lowell
Hon^{ble}. Benjamin Austin Esq^{r}.
M^{r}. John Andrews

be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to Audit the Accounts of David Jeffries Esq^{r}. Treasurer, and also the Accompts of the Overseers of the Poor; and the said Committee are impowered when they shall Audit said Accompts to allow such of the Overseers as shall advance Money for the Relief of the Poor, Interest on all such Sums from the time so Advanced, untill they shall have Audited [**375.**] Said Accompts, and they are also desired to Report from time to time a State of the Treasurey respecting its Debts and Credits, and on any Matter that they may think proper

The article in the Warrant Viz^{t}. — To determin what Land shall be improved by the Town for the raising of Vegitables the present Year, was read, whereupon

Voted, that Cap^{t}. Job Prince
M^{r}. Isaac Pierce
M^{r}. Enoch Brown

Mr. Samuel Breck
Mr. John Lowell
Mr. Cornelius Thayer
Mr. Andrew Oliver

be a Committee to consider this Article, and Report at the Adjournment

The Article in the Warrant Vizt. — To consider what Measures shall be taken relating to the Manure in the Street" — was read, whereupon

Voted, that Capt. Job Prince
Mr. Isaac Pierce
Mr. Enoch Brown
Mr. Samuel Breck
Mr. John Lowell
Mr. Cornelius Thayer
Mr. Andrew Oliver

be a Committee to consider this Matter and Report at the Adjournment

[376.] The Article relative to a School house was read, whereupon it was moved and Voted, to refer the Consideration thereof to the Adjournment

The Article in the Warrant Vizt. — "To consider what further provision is necessary for the Work House" — was read whereupon Voted, that

Ellis Gray Esqr.
Stephen Higginson Esqr.
Mr. John Andrews
Mr. Edward Payne
William Cooper

be a Committee to consider this Matter and Report as soon as may be

The Article in the Warrant Vizt. — "To consider what is further necessary to be done relative to supplying the Families of such Non Commissioned Officers and Soldiers as have engaged in the Continental Service, conformable to a late Act of the General Court, was read, whereupon, it was moved and Voted, that the further consideration of this Matter be referred over to the Adjournment of this Meeting

The Article in the Warrant — Vizt. "To consider whether any further Measures can be taken to promote Virtue, and good order in the Town" — was read, whereupon — Voted, that

The Honble. Samuel Adams Esqr.
Revd. Doctr. Cooper
Revd. Mr. Lotherop
Revd. Mr. Howard
Mr. Joseph Peirce
[377.] John Tudor Esqr.
Caleb Davis Esqr.

be a Committee for the Purpose aforesaid to Report as soon as may be

Adjourned to Tuesday next being the 21 Inst. 10. OClock Fore-Noon

March 21st. 10. O.Clock. Met according to Adjournment
John Tudor in the Chair

On a Motion Voted, that the Town come to the choice of Constables at 12 O.Clock

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for Eight or Nine Persons to serve on a Committee of Correspondence Inspection & Safety in the Room of Eight who have resigned; and the Votes having been brought in and sorted it appeared that

Nathaniel Barber Esqr.
Edward Procter Esqr.
Capt. John Pulling
Mr. Foster Condav
Ebenezer Hancock Esqr.
Samuel Ruggles Esqr.
Andrew Symms Esqr.
Thomas Melvill Esqr.

were Chosen a Committee of Correspondence. Inspection and Safety, for the Year ensuing

Colo. Waters, having desired that he might be excused serving as a Warden the Question was put and passed in the negative

[378.] The Committee who were appointed to consider the Number of the Assessors, and the Manner in which they are to be paid — Report as their Opinion

That in consideration of the impoverished State of the Town, there should be five Assessors and no more to be paid out of the Town Treasurey

The foregoing Report having been read and considered — the Question was put — Whether the Report be accepted — Passed in the Negative

On a Motion Voted, that the Town will make choice of Seven Assessors for the Year ensuing

The Committee appointed to enquire respecting the payments made by the Collectors into the State, County and Town Treasuries — Report

That it appears by the Treasurers Books &c That there is a ballance due from Frances Shaw Esqr.

March 20th. to the State Treasurer	£5222.19. 7½	
To the Town Treasurer - - - - -	14798.11.11	
		20020.11.6½
Ballance due from Benjamin Sumner		
Junr. March 20th. To the State Treasurer	£1091.5. 4	
To the Town Treasurer - - - - - -	7267.2.10	
		18358.8.2.
Ballance due from Josiah Torry March 20th.		
To the State Treasurer - - - - - -	4963.7 —	
To the Town Treasurer - - - - - -	3055.4.10	
		8018.11.10
[379.]		46397.11.6½

Ballance due from M^{r}. James Thompson March 20th.		
To State Treasurer - - - - - - -	£9934.14.7.	
To the Town Treasurer - - - - -	5074. 6.2	
		15009.0.9.
Due from M^{r}. Benjamin Cudworth		61406.12.3½
To Town Treasurer - - - - - - -	£1180.5.5.	
Due from M^{r}. Benjamin Cudworth to - - the State Treasury on Execution - - returned not satisfied and one returned satisfied in part for 1778 - - Tax - - - - - - - - - - -	3647.16 —	

The Committee to consider the time and manner in which the Assessors shall set for Abatements Reported

That the Assessors shall sit one Month after the essuing each Tax for the Abatements thereon"

The foregoing Report having been read, and considered — the Question was put Viz^{t}. — Whether the Report shall be accepted — Passed in the Affermative

Voted, that the Assessors be and hereby are impowered and directed to sit for such Abatements of Taxes, as they shall Judge reasonable, on every Day of the Month following the delivery of the Tax Books to the Collectors, Lords Days excepted, and no longer. saving that they be allowed to sit the two last Weeks in November for the Abatement of the Taxes of such Persons as had not an oppertunity of applying in the above Limitted time by reason of their being out of the State; at which time they are also allowed and impowered to Abate the Taxes of such Persons as may have died Insolvent before the last Day of November

[380.] The Town brought in their Votes for Seven Assessors, and upon sorting them it appeared that

Deacon Jonathan Brown
Gyles Harris Esq^{r}.
M^{r}. Samuel Dyer
Cap^{t}. John Pulling
M^{r}. William Lowder
M^{r}. John R. Sigorney
M^{r}. Moses May

were chose Assessors for the Year ensuing

On a Motion, Voted to reconsider the Vote for the choice of Constables at 12. O.Clock Afternoon be the time Assigned for that purpose

Moved, that a Committee be appointed to examine the Collectors Books and make Report as soon as may be with respect to the Sums they have Collected and paid into the several Treasuries — and the Question being accordingly put — Passed in the Affermative — also

Voted, that M^{r}. Jonathan Mason
M^{r}. John Sweetser
Samuel Barret Esq^{r}.

be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid and said Committee are also directed to make particular inquiry respecting the Moneys received, and paid into the several Treasuries by Mr. Benjamin Cudworth a late Collector

Adjourned to 3. O.Clock P: M:

[381.] 3. O Clock P: M: Met according to Adjournment

Mr. Isaac Pierce one of the Committee appointed to consider what Land shall be improved by the Town the present Year for the raising of Vegitables Reported verbally

That the Committee are of opinion it will be for the Interest of the Town again to improve the Land at West Boston for raising Vegitables and as much more as can be obtained

The Town having considered of the foregoing Report, it was Voted, that a Committee be now appointed to improve the Lands at West Boston for the raising of Vegitables, which were improved for that purpose the last Year, and so much more Land as can be obtained on the same conditions with the last, as the Committee may Judge to be for the interest and benefit of the Town — and that the Committee consist of Seven Persons

Voted, that Mr. Samuel Brick
Mr. Isaack Pierce
Mr. Daniel Bell
Mr. Benjamin Edes
Mr. William Hoskins
Mr. William Frobisher
Capt. Nathanel Patten

be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

On a Motion made Voted, that there be remitted out of the Fine laid upon such Persons as shall be chose into the Office of Constables the present Year and declines serving the Sum of Eighty Pounds

[382.] The Inhabitants brought in their Votes for Twelve Constables, and upon sorting them it appeared, that

Messrs. John Bryant	excused
Sampson [Read]	not sworn
Stephen Cook	excused
Edward Wentworth	not sworn
Daniel Parks	
Jonathan Houghton - -	excused
David Brewer - - - - -	do.
Pool Spear	
Jonah Knap - - -	excused
William Stagpole - - - -	do.
Benjamin Brown Jur. - - -	do.
Francis Biggelow - - -	do.

were chosen

Voted, that the Sum of one Shilling on the Pound, be and hereby is allowed to the Persons who shall be chose Collectors of Taxes the Year ensuing, for all such Sums as they shall Collect; provided they pay the same into the several Treasuries within four Months, and nine Pence on the Pound on all such other

Sums as they shall have so paid into the Treasury on or before the second Monday in March 1781 which Premium as above expressed appears to be Just and equitable and an ample allowance to the Collectors to encourage them to discharge their Duty with diligence and fidelity; provided also that each of said Collectors give Bond with sufficient Sureties to the Satisfaction of the Selectmen for the faithfull discharge of their duty in said Office and Compyling with this Vote

[**383.**] The Committee appointed to consider the request of the Town Treasurer and determin what allowances ought to be made for past services Report

That they find the Treasurer, has not been paid for his Services in the year 1775 and 1778. and for the Last Six Months — they are of Opinion that eighty Pounds was due to him at the end of the Year 1775 — for his services the preceeding Year — that the allowance from the Town supposing Money had been Good in 1778 as formerly would probably have been £130 — and if the same had been settled at the end of that Year the allowance for depreciation ought to have been settled at the same rate with the allowances made to other Officers of the Town but as by some accident it was not done, the Committee are at a loss, and submit to the consideration of the Town how much the Treasurer ought to receive instead of the Sum of two hundred and ten Pounds due to him for his said Services 1775. and 1778 — they are of Opinion that he ought to receive for his services for Six Months ending the first day of this Month — the Sum of nineteen hundred & fifty Pounds

J Lowell p Order

The foregoing Report having been read and considered — the Question was put — Viz^t. Whether this Report shall be accepted — Passed in the Affermative

The Committee appointed "to consider what further provision is necessary for the Work House" — Report it as their Opinion, that it is expedient to òpen the Work House under the direction of the Overseers of the Poor — and that the said Overseers be requested [**384.**] To lay before the Town an Estimate of the Sum necessary for the purpose, that the Town may make a Grant accordingly

The foregoing Report having been read and considered, the Question was put Viz^t. — Whether the same shall be accepted — Passed in the Affermative

On a Motion, Voted, that a Petition be preferred by y^e. Town to the General Assembly of the State now setting, that some effectual Measures may be taken for the Protection of the Sea Coasts

Voted, that Ellis Gray Esq^r.
John Lowell Esq^r.
Samuel Barret Esq^r.
be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

On a Motion Voted, to reconsider the Vote passed relative to raising Vegitables so far, as that the Seven Gentelmen chose a Committee be excused from serving, and that two be now chosen

Voted, that Cap^t^. Job Prince
Mr. Isaac Pierce

be a Committee instead of the seven chosen to carry the preceeding Vote into execution

The Article in the Warrant. Viz^t^. to consider what is necessary to be done to accomodate the Youth of the South part of the Town with a School House was read and Considered, whereupon

Voted, that Col^o^. Josiah Waters
Deacon John Preston
[385.] Mr. Joseph Barrel
Mr. Ebenezer Dorr
Deacon Samuel Dyer

be a Committee to consider further on this Matter and Request as soon as may be

The Committee to draught a Petition to the General Assembly relative to the Protection of the Sea Coast — Reported a draught, and after some debate a Motion was made and carried, that the Report be recomitted

Voted, that this Meeting be Adjourned to Fryday next 3. O.Clock P: M

Tuesday March 24: P: M: Met according to Adjournment

The Committee appointed to consider what steps it is necessary for the Town to take relative to the Manure in the Streets — Reported that it would be for the Advantage of the Town, to appoint a Committee to imploy Persons to rake up and collect all the Manure and that said Committee be directed to dispose of it to the best advantage keeping an account of all the Charges arising, and to account with the Selectmen for the same on or before the last of March 1781, giving the preferrence to the Inhabitants of this Town in the disposal thereof

The foregoing Report having been read and considered, the Question was put Viz^t^. — Whether the same shall be accepted — Passed in the Negative

The Committee appointed to consider what is necessary to be done for accomodation of the Youth of the South part of the Town with a School house — Reported, and the same having been read, after some debate it was

[386.] Voted, that said Report be Recommitted

The Overseers of the Poor who were directed to Report what Sum would be necessary for the Work House, Reported as their Opinion that a Sum not less than Twenty Thousand Pounds would be Necessary to carry the design into effect

The foregoing Report having been considered, it was Voted, that the same be accepted, and that the Sum of Twenty Thousand Pounds mentioned in said Report be raised by a Tax upon Polls and Estates within this Town, for the purpose aforesaid

Mr. Bigelow, Mr. Cook, Mr. Stagpoole — Col^o^. Brewer, Mr. Knap, Mr. Houghton, Mr. Bryant — Mr. Brown, all of whom had been chose Constables for the Year ensuing, having desired the Town to excuse them from serving in that Office for reasons by them respectively offered — they were, each of them excused by the Town

The Committee appointed to examine into the State of the accounts of the severall Collectors of Taxes, have attended that service and Report as follows

That on examining Mr. Sumners Accounts find that he has paid into the several Treasuries the five first Taxes committed to him to Collect amounting to - - £45333 – 1 – 7
for which he has their Receipts
Out of which there should be to his Cr.

for Abatements - - - - - - -	£1827	14	10
for Commissions - - - -	2444	14	6
	£4272	9	4

brot. over	£4272	9	4
[387.] Since which he has paid on 6 Tax which was £40053 14 - - - - - - - - - -	24558	13	8
On which the Commissions, to be allowed	1227	18	8
him is the balance thereof due to all the Treasuries and on the 6th. Tax only will be -	9994	12	4
	£40053	14	—

That there Appears to be outstanding - - - by his Books on the first five Tax's	£1015	2	—
On the 6 " Tax - - - - - - - - - - - - -	12421	4	8
	£13436	6	8 of

which it appears to the Satisfaction of the Committee that there are several very considerable Sums which it was not in his power to collect on Account of peculiar circumstances attending them —

On examination of Mr. Thompsons Account it appears that the Severel Taxes committed to him to Collect being the 5th. & 6th. only amounted to - - - - - - - - - - - £65852 13 5

Of which he has paid into the Several Treasuries the Sum of - -	£50852	13	4
The Commissions on which are -	2540	12	1
there remains a ballance due from him - - - - - - -	12459	7	8
	£65852	13	4

To pay which Balance there are in Debts outstanding the Sum of - - - - - - - - - - - - -	£9319	6	6
In which Mr. Thompson has recd. within a few Days - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	3573	6	–
And a Receipt of the Assessors for - - - - -	355	10	–

Among the Debts there are four only amountg. in the whole to the sum of £4704 — which he has not been able to Collect

On examination of Mr. Shaws Accot. that he stands indebted to the State only the Sum of £5223 7 2

[388.] Has in outstanding debts £11481 9 —

On examining M^{r}. Torreys Acco^{t}. it appears that there is due to the State Treasurer - - - -				£10131	6	11
To the Town Treasurer - - - - - - - - - -				3055		
				13186	6	11
That there is due to him say for Commissions - - - - - - -	£3761	———				
Abatements - - - - - - - -	474	2	6			
	4235	2	6			
Ballance due from him - - -	8951	4	5			
				15186	6	11
To pay which Ballance there are in outstanding Debts the sum of - - - - - - - -				14371	18	1

of which there are several Sums that M^{r}. Torrey cannot Collect on Account of particular Circumstances

The Inhabitants brought in their Votes for Four Collectors of Taxes and upon sorting them it appeared that

Francis Shaw Esq^{r}.
M^{r}. Benjamin Sumner Ju^{r}.
M^{r}. John Torrey
M^{r}. James Thompson

were chose Collectors for the year

The Committee to draught a Petition to the General Court, Reported verbally, that they had received such information as in their opinion makes a Petition to be now needless

Which Report being put
Passed in the Affermative

[**389.**] Adjourned to Tuesday the 4th. Day of April next 3. O: Clock P: M:

Tuesday April 4th. — 1780 — 3. O: Clock P: M: met according to Adjournment

Deacon Tudor in the Chair.

The Article in the Warrant Viz^{t}. "To consider whether any thing can be done for the Relief of the Inhabitants greatly distressed by the Exorbitant Prices of the Necessaries of Life" — was read, and after some consideration had thereon. it was moved that the further consideration of this Article be referred over to the next Town Meeting — and the Question being accordingly put Passed in the Affermative

M^{r}. William Brick having in writing requested that he might be excused from serving as a Warden into which Office he had been chosen — he was accordingly excused by the Town

The Inhabitants brought in their Votes for a Warden in the room of M^{r}. Brick, and the same being Sorted it appeared that

M^{r}. Bossinger Foster

was chosen a Warden for the ensuing Year

The Committee appointed to examine the Accounts of M^{r}. Benjamin Cudworth a late Collector of Taxes have attended that Service and beg leave to Report

That it appears that the sum committed to him to Collect Amounts by the Assessors Books to £23132.7.7

[390.] That he has paid into the several Treasuries as by his Receipts for the same £17766.13.4

That the Abatements Amount to - - - - - - - - -	£1060 6 2	
His Commissions to - -	1000	
		2060 16 2
That the ballance due from him will therefore Amount to		3305 7 1
		£23.132.7.7

To pay which ballance of three thousand three hundred and five Pounds seven Shillings and one penny, he has in out standing Debts, about One thousand one hundred Pounds, a very inconsiderable part of which only there is in the Opinion of the Committee any the least probability of his ever Collecting

Voted that the consideration of School Masters Salaries and Grants be referred over to May Meeting

On a Motion made — Voted, that a Committee be now chosen to take into consideration and Report as soon as may be what they shall Judge to be adequate Grants to the Schoolmasters

Voted, that Ellis Gray Esq^r.
Samuel Barret Esq^r.
Ebenezer Storer Esq^r.
Nathan^l. Appleton Esq^r.

be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

It not appearing to this Town that by a Certificate **[391.]** From a Justice that any of the Constables chose at this Meeting had been sworn into that Office within the time prescribed by Law, though Notifications had been issued for that purpose by the Town Clerk — The Inhabitants were therefore directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for twelve Constables, and the same having been brought in and sorted it appeared, that the following Persons were chose Constables for the Year ensuing — Viz^t.

Mess^rs. Benjamin Edes
Adam Colson
John Fullerton
Thomas Green
Robert Wyer
John Kennedy
Pool Spear
John Jepson
Henry Davidson
Daniel Parks
Benjamin Homans
Benjamin White excused

The Committee appointed to consider what is necessary to be done for the accommodation of the youth of the South part of the Town with a School House — Reported verbally — That upon enquirey they had found that the Widow Holbrook had a Room which would accomodate about Seventy or Eighty Scholars, and that they were of Opinion that if this Room could be obtained it would be best to hire it for a School

Voted, that this Report be accepted, and that the Selectmen be directed to agree with M^{rs}. Holbrook for said Room as they shall Judge for the Interest of the Town

[**392.**] The Article in the Warrant Viz^t. "To consider what is further necessary to be done relative to supplying the Families of such Non Commissioned Officers, and Soldiers as have engaged in the Continental Service, conformable to a late Act of the General Court — was read and considered, whereupon it was moved and Voted, that a Committee be appointed to take this matter into consideration and Report at the Adjournment of this Meeting — Also

Voted, that M^r. John Sweetser
M^r. Jonathan Mason
Jonathan Williams Esq^r.

be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

Adjourned to Tuesday next being the eleventh Day of April Inst^t: 3. O.Clock Afternoon

Tuesday the Eleventh Day of April 3. O.Clock in the Afternoon, Met according to Adjournment

Deacon Tudor in the Chair

The Committee relative to supplying the Families of such Non Commissioned Officers and Soldiers, as have engaged in the Continental Service, and now reside in this Town, not being able to Report, one of the Committee informed that the Hon^{ble}. Thomas Cushing Esq^r. can put the Town into the method of drawing further Provisions

The consideration of the Article in the Warrant relative to the above mentioned Families, was again brought on and after some debate, it was moved and

[**393.**] Voted, that the Sum of Twenty Thousand Pounds be raised by a Tax upon Polls and Estates within this Town to be carried into the Treasury, and appropriated for the supply of the Families of the Non Commissioned Officers and Soldiers of the Continental Army, who reside in this Town, the same to be paid out by the Town Treasurer, unto Cap^t. John Simkins the Commissary as there may be occasion, he to be accountable for the same

M^r. Sampson Read chosen one of the Constables for the present year, not having given in a Certificate of his being sworn before at the last Adjournment, another was then chosen in his Room; notwithstanding which the said Read appeared this afternoon in Meeting and produced a Certificate from M^r. Justice Avery that he had administred to him the Oath of a Constable, but he was acquainted by the Moderator, that it was the sense of the Town, that he could not be considered as a legal Constable

Voted that all Matters and things, which remain, unfinished at this Meeting be referred over to the General Town Meeting in May Next then to be considered, and acted upon

Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby are given to

John Tudor Esq^r^. Moderator Pro. Tem^r^. for his good Servicies in dispatching the Buissiness of the Meeting

Then the Meeting was dissolved

[**394.**] At a legal Meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the Town of Boston being twenty one years of age and upwards, at Faneuil Hall on Wednesday the 3 Day of May Anno Domini 1780 — 10. O.Clock Forenoon

The Meeting was opened with Prayer by the Rev^d^. D^r^. Cooper

Warrant for calling the Meeting read

The Inhabitants were directed by the Selectmen to withdraw and bring in their Votes for a Moderator of that Meeting, and the same having been brought in and sorted it appeared that

The Hon^ble^. Samuel Adams Esq^r^. was chosen

The *Address* of the Convention for framing a new Constitution of Government for the State of Massachusetts Bay to their Constituents; together with *a Constitution or Fram of Goverment.* agreed upon by the *Delagates* of the People of this State in *Convention* begun and held at Cambridge on the first of September 1779 and submitted to the Revision of their Constituents — were distinctly read to the Inhabitants by the Moderator excepting the Clause relative to Oaths &c. which was omitted, in consequence of a Motion for that purpose

On a Motion. Voted, that the Resolves of the Convention passed the second of May 1780 as in Page 53 [**395.**] Shall be the first matter to be taken into consideration and acted upon at the Adjournment

It was moved and Voted, that the Town Clerk signify to the Delagates who Represent this Town in the Convention; that their attendance is requested during this Meeting

Adjourned to 3. O'Clock in the Afternoon

3. O'Clock afternoon met according to Adjournment

The Article in the 6^th^. Chapter relative to Oaths and Subscriptions was read

The Resolve of the Convention passed the Second March 1780 as Page 53 — was again read, and after debate had thereon it was moved and Voted, that the further consideration of this Matter be postponed untill it is determined to what Place this Meeting shall be Adjourned

On a Motion Voted, that a Committee be now appointed to provide a place for the Town to Meet at, when the Meeting shall be Adjourned

Voted, that M^r^. Jeremiah Belknap
Nathaniel Appleton Esq^r^.
Thomas Daws Esq^r^.

be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

[**396.**] Moved and Voted, that the preceeding Vote for taking up the Resolves of the Convention in the first place be reconsidered, and that the Article relative to Oaths and Subscriptions be now considered

The Town however proceeded to the consideration of the Fram of Goverment as Page 15 — and after debate had thereon a Motion was made, and passed, that when this Meeting shall be Adjourned, it shall be to the old Brick Meeting house the Place provided for the Town by the Committee chosen in the Forenoon

It was then moved, and Voted, that the 2d. Chapter relative to the Executive Power Section the first — be now taken up, a former Vote, notwithstanding

The forementioned Article, having been some time under consideration it was moved and Voted, that this Meeting be Adjourned, to to Morrow Afternoon. 3 O.Clock, then to Meet at the old Brick Meeting House

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

Thursday the 4th. day of May 1780. 3. O.Clock P: M: Met According to Adjournment

The Town having Voted to proceed to the consideration of the Fram of Goverment Paragraph by Paragraph

[**397.**] The consideration of the first Chapter the *Legislative Power*, *Section 1st*. The General Court Page 15 was taken up Article by Article and the whole of said Section accepted, Nem. Cond.

The consideration of *Section 2d*. Page 18 — *Senate* — was taken up Article by Article, and after considerable Debate was accepted Nem: Cond: excepting the 3d Article, to which there was one Dissentient

The consideration of Section 3d. Page 24 — *House of Representatives* was taken up Article by Article, & the whole Accepted Nemo. Con

The consideration of the 2d. Chapter Vizt. *Executive Power*, Section 3d. Page 27 — *Governor* was taken up Article by Article, and the whole of said Section accepted by the Town Neme. Con.

The consideration of the 2d. Section Page 35 — *Lieutenant Governor*, was taken up Article by Article, and the whole of said Section passed — Nem Cono.

The consideration of the 3d. Section Page 36 — Vizt. *Council* and the Manner of settling Elections by the Legislature was taken up, Article by Article — and the whole of said Section passed Nem Cond.

The consideration of the 4th Section Page 38 — Vizt. — *Secretary, Treasurer, Commissary* &c was taken up Article by Article, and the whole of said Section passed Neme. Cond. — also

[**398.**] Voted, that it be and hereby is Recommended to the Delagates who Represent this Town in the Convention, that a Clause be inserted under the foregoing Section for limiting the Time of Service of the Commissary General, in like manner as the Time of Service of the Treasurer & Receiver General has been Limited

The consideration of the 3d. Chapter — Vizt. *Judiciary Power* as Page 39 — was taken up Article by Article — and the whole of the Chapter accepted N C

The consideration of the 4th. Chapter Vizt. Page 40 — Vizt. Delagates to Congress, was taken up and accepted Neme. Cond.

The consideration of the 5th Chapter Page 41 — Vizt. — The University at Cambridge, and Encouragement of Literature &c Section the 1t. was taken up Article by Article, and the whole of said Sęction Accepted Nem Con

The consideration of the 2d Section in Chapter 5 Page 43 Vizt. — The encouragement of Literature was taken up, and accepted Neme. Contd.

The consideration of the 6th. Chapter Page 44 — Vizt. Oaths and Subscriptions, Incompatability of and exclusion from Offices; Pecuniary Qualifications; of Laws. Commissions, Writes; Confirmations of Laws; Habeas Corpus; The Enacting Continuance of Officers 1 Provision for a Future Revisal of the Constitution &c — was taken up Article by Article and all accepted N. C saving the 7th. Article Page 49 — relative to the **[399.]** Write of Habeas Corpus, and upon a Motion

Voted that John Lowell Esqr.
Ellis Gray Esqr.
Nathl. Appleton Esqr.

be a Committee to consider the same and Report at the Adjournment

On a Motion Voted, that the consideration of the Preamble to the Declaration of Rights, be postponed and that the 3d. Article in said Declarating Preamble thereto excepted shall be the last Article to be acted upon at this Meeting — also

Voted, that the Declaration of Rights be now considered

The Several Articles in the Declaration of Rights excepting as aforesaid was Accordingly taken up and being duly considered, were excepted, Article by Article Nem Con Saving the 16 Article, and on a Motion Made

Voted, that John Lowell Esqr.
Ellis Gray Esqr.
Nathl. Appleton Esqr.

be a Committee to consider the propriety of Adding a Clause to said Article for Securing freedom of Speach

Moved and Voted, that when this Meeting is Adjourned it shall be to Monday Morning 9 O.Clock

[400.] On a Motion made Voted that it be recommended to the Inhabitants of this Town to attend the Town Meeting at the Adjournment next Monday Morning 9. O.Clock, and as matters of the greatest consequence, respecting the Establishment of a Constitution of Civil Goverment for this State, Will then be Acted upon, it is most earnestly recommended that all Buissiness be suspended by the shutting up of Stores, Shops &c that there may be a full Attendance, and it is further

Voted, that the Ministers of the Gospel be requested to remind their respective Congregations the next Lords day, of this Adjournment, and of the importance of universally withdrawing them selves for a few hours from their ordinary Engagements, and devoting their Attention to a Matter so deeply interesting to themselves and their Posterity

Voted, that a Copy of this Vote be sent to the Ministers of every Denomination

Then the Meeting was Adjourned to next Monday 9. O.Clock

Monday the 8th. Day of May. 9. O.Clock Forenoon — Met according to Adjournment

The left Quarter of the upper Galary was Assigned by the Moderator for Strangers, and Persons under twenty One years of Age

On a Motion made Voted, that twelve Persons be appointed Monitors and

[401.]

Capt. Newell
Col°. Procter
Capt. Parkman
James Brewer
John Lowel
John Lucas
John R. Sigorney
Capt. John Simpkins
Adam Colson
Dr. Nathl. Noyes
Mr. Conent
Capt. Stanton

were accordingly chosen

The Committee appointed to Consider and Report relative to the Seventh and Sixteenth Articles, of the Bill of Rights Report — That instead of the 16th. Article of the Bill of Rights, The same should Stand as follows — Vizt. The Liberty of Speach and of the Press with respect to publick men and their Publick Conduct and Publick Measures, is essential to the Security of Freedom in a State and shall not therefore be restrained in their Common Wealth"

That instead of the 7th. Article of the 6th. Chapter it should Stand as follows — Vizt. — "The Priviledge & Benefit of the Write of Habeas Corpus shall be enjoyed in this Common Wealth, in the most free, easey, cheap, expeditious and ample manner — and shall not be suspended except in time of War, Invasion or a Time of Rebellion declared by the Legislature to exist, nor for a longer Time than Six Months

[402.] The foregoing Report having been read and considered — the Question was put. Vizt. Whether the Same, shall be accepted — Passed in the Affermative Leme. Cond. — It was Also

Voted, Neme. Cond. That the Delegates who Represent this Town in the Convention be and hereby are Instructed to move to the Convention at their Next Meeting that these alterations may be come into

The Article the 7. relative to the Execluesive Power as Page 31. being under consideration it was moved & Voted,

That the Delegates who Represent this Town in Convention be and hereby are Instructed to Move to the Convention that the following Clauses may be Added to the said 7th. Article Vizt.— Or for the Defence of a Neighbouring State invaded or threatend with immediate Invasion, and their Power to be granted only in the Recess of the General Court

The Several Articles in the Constitution or Fram of Goverment — agreed on by the Convention and by them proposed to the people for their Approbation, rejection or Amendment (except the 3d.

Article in the Bill of Rights and the 2^d^. Article of the 1^t^. Chapter relative to the Mode of Electing Senators) having been considered, paragraph by Paragraph and accepted, as the several Articles stand amended, Article by Article — The whole was put, when it was unanimously Voted, to accept the Same; the Meeting then consisting of Eight Hundred & Eighty Seven Voters

[**403.**] The 2^d^. Article of the 1^t^. Chapter relative to the Mode of Electing Senators — was then put — when it appeared that Eight hundred Eighty Six were for accepting the said Article and but one who was for rejecting it

A Motion was made to reconsider the preceeding Vote — but the Motion did not obtain

It was moved and Voted that the consideration of the 3^d^. Article in the Declaration of Rights, be referred to 3. OClock Afternoon

Adjourned to 3. O.Clock in the Afternoon

3 O.Clock P: M: Met according to Adjournment

The 3^d^. Article of the Bill of Rights was again taken into consideration, and the debates continuing till it was dark — it was moved, that the Meeting be Adjourned to to Morrow Morning 9. OClock in the Forenoon and that the consideration of said Article be then taken up. Paragraph by Paragraph

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

Tuesday May 9^th^. — 9. O.Clock Forenoon — Met according to Adjournment

Moved that the Consideration of the 3^d^. Article in the Declaration of Rights, be taken up at large and that the Vote of the last Evening for considering the Same Paragraph by Paragraph be now reconsidered — and the Question being accordingly put — Passed in the Affermative

[**404.**] The foregoing Article having been debated at large it was Moved and Voted, that the same be now taken up Paragraph by Paragraph

The Article being again considered in distinct Paragraphs, after by debates it was moved, and Voted, that the further consideration of this whole Article be referred to a Committee to Report such alterations as they may Judge most convenient to the Sense of the Town as discovered in the present debate

Voted, that John Lowell Esq^r^.
Rev^d^. M^r^. Sillman
Rev^d^. Doct^r^. Cooper
Ellis Gray Esq^r^.
Perez Morton Esq^r^.

be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

Adjourned to Wednesday next 9. O.Clock Forenoon

Wednesday May 10^th^. 9. O.Clock Forenoon — Met according to Adjournment

The Committee to whom was referred the consideration of the third Article in the Declaration of Rights — Reported the same with such alterations as they Judged most consonant to the Sense of the Town and is as follows — Viz^t.

As the Happiness of a People and the Good Order; and **[405.]** Preservation of civil Goverment essentially depends upon Piety, religion and morality; and as these cannot be generally deffused through a Community, but by the Publick Worship of God, and Publick Instructions in Piety religion and morality, Therefore to promote their happiness and to secure the good order and preservation of their Goverment the People of this Commonwealth have a right to invest their Legislative with Power; to Authorize and require all the Inhabitants of this Commonwealth to make provision at their own expence for the Publick Worship of God and for the support and maintainance of Publick Protestant teachers of Piety, Religion and Morality who have not made such provision voluntary, or who have not made voluntary provision for some other Publick religious Teacher or for the support of some other Publick Worship within their commonwealth — And the several Towns Parishes Precincts and other Bodies politick or religious societies shall at all times have the exclusive right of electing their Publick teachers and of contracting with them for their support and maintainance; provided nevertheless that the minority of such Towns, Parishes Precincts and other Bodies Politick or religious Societies shall not be bound by the voice of the Majority in their electing their Publick Teachers or contracting with them for their support, but such Minority may if they see fit elect some other publick religious Teacher and Support him And all Monies Assessed upon the Subject for the support **[406.]** Of Publick Worship and of Publick religious Teachers shall if he requires it be uniformely Applied to the support of the Publick Worship which he may chuse to support: provided however that such Teachers shall bona " fide receive the same to his own Use Otherwise such sum shall be appropriated to the use of the Poor of any Parish or religious society that such Subject shall chuse if he makes his Election within twelve Months, and if not it shall be applied to the support of the Poor of the Parish or Precinct in which said Moneys were raised. And all Religious Sects and Denominations Whatsoever, demeaning themselves Peaceably and as good Subjects of the Commonwealth shall be equally under the Protection of Law — And no Subordination of any one Sect or denomination to another shall ever be established by Law

The foregoing Report having been read, it was moved, and Voted that a Question previous to the Report, being Acted upon. Viz^t. Whether there shall be any thing further Added to the 2^d. Article in the Declaration of Rights, which relates to Religion — And the Question being accordingly put — Passed in the Affermative, by a great Majority

The said Report being again taken up Paragraph by Paragraph — and amended the same was Accepted by the Town

It was moved and Voted that when this Meeting shall be Adjourned it be to 4. O.Clock P: M:

[407.] Moved that a Committee be appointed to bring in an

Article in addition to the Article in the 43 Page — but the Motion was withdrawn

Adjourned to 4: O.Clock P: M:

4: O: Clock : P: M: Met according to Adjournment

It was moved and carried that the foregoing Clauses be added to the Report of the Committee on the 3^d Article in the Declaration of Rights Viz^t. —" The foregoing however is not to be so construed as to Nullify or infring any express voluntary Contract that hath been entered into between any Person or Persons, or any Town Parish, Precinct or Body of Men on the one Part and any Teacher or Minister of Religion on the other

The aforegoing Report of the Committee of the Committee on the 3^d. Article, which had been accepted paragraph by paragraph — was put in the whole as amended — when it appeared that Four hundred and twenty were for accepting the Report — and one hundred and Forty against Receiving it

A Motion was then made that if the amendments proposed by the Town cannot be obtained by their Delagates, that they then shall be and hereby are Instructed to Vote for the 3^d. Article in the Declaration of Rights, as it stands in the Form laid before the People — rather than the Article, should be lost at the next Meeting of the [**408.**] Convention — And the Question being put — it appeared that two hundred and seventy seven were in faviour of the Motion, and one hundred and forty against it

On a Motion, Voted, to appoint a Committee to draw up the reasons for the proposed Alterations in some Articles of the Frame of a Constitution presented by the Convention; and to draught Instructions to our Delagates in the said Convention

Voted, that Perez Morton Esq^r.
M^r. Samuel Eliot
William Tudor Esq^r.
M^r. John Sweetser
M^r. Thomas Walley

be a Committee for the Purpose aforesaid

Adjourned to Fryday next. 3 O: Clock P: M:

Fryday May 12. 3 O.Clock P: M met according to Adjournment

M^r. Morton had leave to withdraw his dissent to the passing the Article which relates to the mode of electing Senators

The Preamble to the Constitution or Form of Goverment for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, again read — whereupon the Question was put — Viz^t. Whether the Town do approve and accept of the Same — passed in the Affermative

[**409.**] The Committee appointed to draw up reasons for the proposed alterations in some Articles of the Constitution or Form of Goverment laid before the Town, and also to draught Instruction to our Delagates in the Convention — Report as follows — Viz^t.

Gentlemen

The Town of Boston have Convened in a legal Meeting to consider the Constitution or Forms of Goverment agreed on by the

Convention, & by them proposed to the People for their Approbation, rejection, or amendment, having had the same repeatedly read proposed to a discussion of the Several Articles theirein contained and having recommended amendments in the 16th. Article of the Declaration of Rights, in the 7th. Article of the 2d. Chapter in the 4th. Section of the 2d. Chapter & in the 7th. Article of the 6th. Chapter unanimously voted to accept said Constitution or Form of Goverment with the Amendments, the third Article in the Declaration of Rights excepted, provided by the most Strenious endeavours of their Delegates the said Amendments can be procured, otherwise to accept the said Articles as they were agreed to by the Convention, But the 3d. Article in the Declaration of Rights was refered to futer consideration; the meeting then consisting of eight hundred and eighty seven Voters — The Town then proceeded to consider the 3d. Article; which having been largely debated, was amended and Voted, 420 for & 51 against it. It was then moved and seconded, that if you could not obtain this Article as amended, you should be impowered to Vote for [**410.**] The 3d. Article as it originally stood rather than the Amendment should be the Means of postponing the establishment of the Constitution at the next Meeting of the Convention; as some Form was necessary to give Stability and force to Goverment. The Question being put the numbers were 277 for and 140 against it. Your utmost exertions are nevertheless earnestly enjoined to obtain the Amendments A principle of respect to a Body of Men of such distinguished rank and Ability as the Convention would not assuredly have led the Town to Assign the reasons for any alterations they might make in a system they had formed and recommended. But as the Convention have requested the doing it, it is now to be performed on a higher Principle. In general it may be Observed that the Amendments proposed were made upon the idea that they would more effectually subserve the excuse of Civil and Religious Liberty, that great object of our endeavours, and the point to which all our efforts ought to tend, The Amendment of 16th. April of the Declerations of Rights, was made upon the strongest persuation, that Liberty of Speech, as it respected publick Men in their publick Conduct, was an essential and darling right of every member of a free State upon which in a very emenent Degree the preservation of their other reights depends; that nothing spoken with design to give information of the State of the Publick should be ever subject to the smalest restraint; and that any Attempt to oppose such restraint ought to excite an alarm in the People as it infered a consciousness of demerit on the part of those Attempting [**411.**] That such restraint was more degrading and more Strongly marked the Slaves than ever the privation of the Liberty of the Press; and that the latter, so absolutely necessary, and therefore so justly dear to every free State could not be maintained in its full force and vigour without the former. But while we hold up the Liberty of the Press, as essentially necessary to general Freedom, as it respects publick Men and Measures we reject with Abhorrence the idea of its abuse to the injury of private Characters. — The next amendment gives

Power to the Governor, in the recess of the General Court, to march or transport, the Inhabitants of this State for the relief of a Neighbouring State invaded or threatened with immediate invation. This was judged incumbent on the general Principles of humanity, and absolutely necessary upon the Principles of Policy, A threatn'd invastion may be wholly prevented by the early appearance of a respectable Military force and Invation actually begun may be easally repeled, in many Instances by an immediate Opposition. In the former case, the Lives & Property of our Friends & Neighbours may be entirely saved & Secured; and in the Latter case fewer lives may be lost In all Probability, and less Property Destroyed, Besides delay may give oppertunity to an Enemy (so disposed) to take Post, and establish himself in such a manner as would require a very great force to remove him while an early force might be adequate to his immediate expulsion. Further the withholding immediate aid, may open a passage into our own State, and to bring the War to our own doors. — It was also suggested, that the Article, of Confederation bound us to grant immediate relief, which can only be Obtained by [**412.**] Vesting the Governor with such power, and was therefore Voted, — The next amendements respects the time of service of the Commissary General which is proposed to be limited to the Term of Five years. This was done because it was apprehended that a change or relation of Officers was necessary, in general to the preservation of Freedom. Persons longe in Office are apt to lose that sence of Dependance upon the People, which is essential to keep them within the Line of duty to the Publick. And especially may the good of the Community be promoted by the retirements of such Persons from Office at certain fixed periods, who have been largely intrusted with Publick Money or Stores — The next Article respects that important Write of Habeas Corpus. Many Reasons might be given for the Alterations made. It was judged best to confir the Suspension of this security of personal Liberty or freedom from Imprisonments to times of War, invation and rebellion, the terms urgent and pressing occations, being too indefinite and giving scope to the most powerfull Engine of Despotism, and Slavery. It was not conceived that any cause could possibly exist in time of peace, that could justify imprisonments without allegation or charge; and the granting a Power in a season of tranquility liable to such gross abuse, and which might be attend with consequences destructive of the dearest priviledges and best interest of the Subject was deemed incompatable with every Principle of Liberty. Nay it was apprehended that it might Opperate as an incentive to Despotism; and to hold up a temtation [**413.**] to Tyranny while human Nature is constituted as we find it was judged to be wholly inexpedient. Confineing the suspencion won in time of War, invation and rebellion, to Six Months, was supposed a proper Limetation, as every purpose of an honest Goverment might be fully answered, in that period. A larger pereod might lead to a State of forgetfullness of the unhappy Subject of Suspission, and he might Drag on a Wretched being in the Dark abode of a

Dungion, or within the gloomy walls of a Prison, without a Single Ray of hope to enlighten his cell or a single Friend to chear his Desponding spirit. Thus may his dreadfull Confinement when the Reason that operated to his Commitment have been long done away. Can a Power pregrant with such mighty Evils be too Strongly guarded; Or can we be too solicetious to confine it within the narrow limits that will comport with the Publick safety? — The only Article now to be attended to is the third in the Deceleration of Rights, which Asserts that Piety, Religion and morality are essential to the happiness, Peace and Good order of a People and that these Principles are diffused by the Publick Worship of God, and by Publick Instructions &c — and in Consequence makes provision for their support. The alterations proposed here which you will Lay before the Convention were designed to Secure the Reights of Consience and to give the fullest Scope to religious Liberty In support of the proposition it urged that if Publick Worship and Publick teaching, did certainly (as was allowed) defuse a general Sence of Duty & moral Obligations, and, so secured the safety of our [**414.**] Persons and Properties, we ought chearfully to pay those from whose agency we derived such Advantages. But we are Attempting to support (it is said) the Kingdom of Christ; It may as well be said we are supporting the Kingdom of God, by institution of a Civil Goverment, which Declared to be an Ordinance to the Deity, and so refuse to pay the civil magistrate. What will be the consequence of such refusal — The greatest disorders, if not a Dissolution of Society. Suspend all provision for the inculation of Morality, religion and Piety, and confusion & every evil work may be justly dreaded; for it is found that with all the Restraints of religion induced by the Preaching of Ministers, and with all the Restraints of Goverment inforced by civil Law, the World is far from being as quiet an abode as might be wished. Remove the former by ceasing to support Morality, religion and Piety and it will be soon felt that human Laws were feble barriers opposed to the uninformed lusts of Passions of Mankind. But though we are not supporting the kingdom of Christ may we not be permitted to Assist civil society by an addoption, and by the teaching of the best set of Morals that were ever offered to the World. To Object to these Morrals, or even to the Piety and Religion we aim to inculcate, because they are drawn from the Gospel, must appear very singular to an Assembly generally professing themselves Christians. Were this really our intention, no Objection ought to be made to it provided, as in fact the case that equal Liberty is granted to every religious Sect and Denomination [**415.**] Whatever, and it is only required that every Man should pay to the support of Publick Worship In his own way. But should any be so Conscientious that they cannot pay to the support of any of the various denominations among us they may then alott their Money to the support of the Poor — It remains only to fix the time when this Form of Goverment shall take place; But having had large experience of your Ability and Zeal in the course of the very lengthy Session of Convention, the last Winter we very Chearfully leave the Determination of this point to that prudence, Judgement and Integrity, which have so strongly marked your conduct in this Department and to the united Wisdom of the whole Body.

The foregoing Report of the Committee having been read and considered — the Question was put — Vizt. "Whether the same shall be accepted, by the Town" — Passed in the Affermative, almost unanimously

The Resolves of the Convention, passed the 2d. March having been read and considered — whereupon

Voted, almost unanimously that the Selectmen of this Town be directed to transmit to the Secretary of the Convention the doings of this Town relative to the Form of Goverment agreeable to the Resolves of Convention; in order, to the Secretary of Convention laying the same before a Committee to be appointed for the purpose of examining and [**416.**] Arranging them for the Rivision and consideration of the Convention at the Adjournment; with the Number of Voters on each side of every Question, in order that the said Convention at the Adjournment may Collect the general sense of their Constituents on the several parts of the proposed Constitution; and if it do not appear to be two thirds, of their Constituents in faviour thereof, that the Convention may alter it in such a manner as that it may be Agreeable to the sentiments of two thirds of the Voters throughout the State, also

Voted, almost unanimousley the Delegates of this Town be and hereby are impowered at the next Session of the Convention; to agree upon a time when this Form of Goverment shall take Place without returning the same again to the People: Provided that two thirds of the Male Inhabitants of the Age of twenty one years and upwards, Voting in the Several Towns and Plantations Meeting, shall agree to the Same, or the Convention shall conform it to the Sentements of two thirds of the People as aforesaid

A Motion made, that this Meeting be now dessolved

And the Meeting was accordingly dissolved.

[**417.**] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned, in Publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneiuel Hall on Tuesday the 16th. Day of May Anno Domini 1780. 10. O.Clock Forenoon

Prayer was made by the Revd. Mr. Eliot

The Precept and Warrant for calling the Meeting - - read

Sundry Laws - - - - - - - - read

The Town having determined to choose seven Persons to Represent them in the Great and General Court or Assembly to be held at the Town House in Boston upon Wednesday the 31t. Day of May Current — The Inhabitants were accordingly directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for Seven Representatives, and then it was declared by the Selectmen, that no Votes would be received, but such as are unfolded, and that they Propose the Poll shall be closed at 12 O.Clock

The Votes being brought in for Seven Representatives, the

Number of the same were found to be three hundred and Sixty Six, and upon sorting them it appeared that the following Persons were chose — Vizt.

	The Honble.	Samuel Adams Esqr.	388	Excus'd
	The Honble.	John Hancock Esqr. -	355	
[418.]		Caleb Davis Esqr. - -	365	
		Thomas Daws Esqr.	357	
		Ellis Gray Esqr.	192	Excus'd
		John Lowell Esqr.	361	
		Thomas Walley	202	

The choice of Representatives being over and declared by the Selectmen the Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for a Moderator of this Meeting in order that the Town may proceed in transacting the Other Affairs mentioned in the Warrent; accordingly the Inhabitants withdrew and brought in their Votes, and upon sorting them it Appeared that

The Honble. John Hancock Esqr. was chosen

Adjourned to 3. O.Clock in the Afternoon

3. O'Clock Afternoon met according to Adjournment

Mr. Clement Collins Junr. was chose a Measurer of Boards for the Year ensuing

The Inhabitants brought in their Votes for one Constable in the room of Mr. Benjamin White who declines serving, and upon sorting them it appeared that Mr. Jonathan Loring was Chosen

Ellis Gray having sent in his excuse in writing for not serving the Town as one of their Representatives in the General Assembly, it was moved and Voted, that the Choice of a Representative in his room be postponed till the Adjournment

[419.] The Clause in the Warrant Vizt. — To consider whether Instructions shall be given to the Representatives, that may be chosen — was read and after some debate thereon it was moved, and Voted, that the further consideration of this matter be referred to the Adjournment of this Meeting

The Clause in the Warrant. Vizt. — "To determin what is proper to be done with respect to the North Battery" — was read whereupon, it was moved and carried that a Committee be now chosen to consider this Article, and Report as soon as may be what they Judge best for the Town to do thereon

Voted, that Colo. Barber
Mr. Nathan Frazier
Mr. John Ballard

be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid also

Voted, that said Committee be directed to make enquirey and search into the Town Title to the Land at and near North Battery

On a motion made Voted, that the Town Clerk issue a Warrant to the Constables, for notifying again such persons as have been chosen into Office, and have neglected to qualify themselves as the Law directs by taking the Oath of Office

The Honble. Samuel Adams Esqr. came into Meeting and Acquainted the Town that he had Just been regularly notified of the Honour they had done him in [420.] Electing him one of their

Representatives in the General Assembly; that as he could not suppose them to be unacquainted with his intention to repair to Philadelphia to attend his duty as a Member of Congress, he could not but feel very sensibly the Particular mark of respect with which the Town had honoured him in this Election: that he had always served them to the utmost of his capasity with the greatest alacrity and should be happy in still considering himself tho. at Congress as not altogether out of the service of a Town that makes so respectable a part of the State of Massachusetts, he concluded that as it was probable he should be Absent from this State the greatest part of the Year it was therefore his desire that another Representative might be Elected in his room whereupon it was

Voted, that Mr. Adams be excused from serving as a Representative

Voted, that the choice of a Representative in the room of Mr. Adams for serving be referred to the Adjournment

The Committee appointed to consider of proper and adequate Grants to the Schoolmasters, Report as their Opinion — That they ought to receive the same Sum in Specie as was allowed them in the Year 1774 — or a Sum in Paper Money equal to the Exchange said Exchange to be settled by the Selectmen at the date of these Draughts for payments according to the rate of Gold and Silver — and that the Master of the North Writing School have an additional allowance of fourteen Pounds p Annum for House [**421.**] Rent or the Exchange as aforesaid

After some debate on the foregoing Report it was moved and Voted, that the consideration of this Report be referred to the Adjourment

Adjournment to Tuesday the 23d. Day of May Instant 10. O'Clock Beforenoon

Tuesday the 23d. Day of May 10. OClock Forenoon, met according to adjournment

The Meeting for the choice of two Representatives in the room of Mr. Adams and Mr. Gray who had declined serving, being Adjourned to this time — Mr. Scollay Chairman of the Selectmen in their Name directed the Inhabitants to withdraw and bring in their Votes for two Representatives, and their it was declared that no Votes would be received, but such as are unfolded

The Votes being accordingly brought in the number of the same were found to be two hundred, and upon sorting them it appeared, that the two following Persons were chose — Vizt.

Mr. Samuel Austin - - - - - - -	101
Ezekiel Price Esqr. - - - - - - -	180 (excused)

The choice of two Persons as Representatives being over and declared by the Selectmen

The Honble. John Hancock Esqr. the Moderator of the Meeting for transacting the other Affairs mentioned in the Warrant, again took the Chair

[**422.**] The Article in the Warrant Vizt. "To consider whether Instructions shall be given to the Representatives that may be chosen, was read and after some debate had thereon it was

Voted, that a Committee shall now be chosen to draw up Instructions for the Gentelmen chosen to represent this Town in the General Assembly to Report a Draught at the Adjournment of this Meeting —

Voted, that Ellis Gray Esq^{r}.
Hon^{ble}. Samuel Adams Esq^{r}.
M^{r}. Leonard Jarvis
be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

Voted, this Meeting be Adjourned to Wednesday 9. OClock Forenoon

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

Wednesday 9. O.Clock Beforenoon — Met according to Adjournment

Ezekiel Price Esq^{r}. one of the Gentelmen chosen to Represent this Town having by his desire been excused from serving — M^{r}. Scollay Chairman of the Selectmen in their Name directed the Inhabitants to withdraw, and bring in their Votes for one Representative, and that it was declared that no Votes will be received but such as are unfolded

The Votes being accordingly brought in and [**423.**] Sorted, it appeared that the Number of Votes were one hundred and fifty Three, and that John Rowe Esq^{r}. - - - 144 was chosen

The choice of a Representative in the Room of Ezekiel Price Esq^{r}. who had declined serving, being over and delivered by the Selectmen

The Hon^{ble}. John Hancock Esq^{r}. the Moderator of the Meeting for transacting the Other affairs mentioned in the Warrant, again took the Chair

The Committee to consider what is proper to be done on the Article in the Warrant which respects the North Battery, Reported verbally

That it appeared to the Committee to be for the Interest of the Town, that the Battery Estate should be Leased or otherwise improved for the benefit of the Town, and the Committee asked leave to Report further — whereupon

Voted, that the Committee aforesaid be desired to Report further, as soon as may be

The Selectmen a Committee to procure a Room for the accommodation of the Youth of the South part of The Town, in the room of the School House lately consumed by Fire — Reported

That they could not obtain a proper Building for a School, and that they had therefore — caused a plan to be drawn for a suitable Building for that purpose which with an Estimate of the charge thereof, they beg'd leave to lay before the Town for their consideration whereupon

[**424.**] Voted, that the consideration of this Report and what is proper to be done thereon, be referred over to the Adjournment of this Meeting

The Committee of Eighteen relative to purchasing of Grain &c Reported verbally

That they are not at present ready for closing their Accounts with M^r. Van Ranselier of N York, who had been employed by them in purchasing Grain, but that they hoped they should be able to Report and lay their Doings before the Town at the Adjournment — on a Motion

Voted, that when this Meeting be Adjourned it be to Wednesday the 14 Day of June next. 10. O'Clock Forenoon

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuiel Hall the 9th. Day of June 1780. 3 O.Clock. P: M:

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw, and bring in their Votes for a Moderator, and the same having been brought in and sorted, it appeared that

John Tudor Esq^r.

was chosen, unanimously

[425.] The Article in the Warrant Viz^t. — "To consider and determine upon the most expeditious, and equal way of raising this Towns proportion of Men for the Continental Army as required by a Resolve of the General Court" — was read, as also the Resolve of the General Court passed the 5th. Day of June Current" — was read, as also the Resolve of the General Court mentioned above — whereupon it was moved, and

Voted, that whatever charge may arise on raising the Towns proportion of Men, over and above the encouragement given by Goverment, shall be defreyed by a Town Tax

Voted, that the Sum of One hundred Thousand Pounds, be raised by a Tax upon Polls and Estates within this Town for the sole purpose of carrying on the War, the same to be added to the next Tax — also

Voted, that the Town Treasurer be and he hereby is impowered to borrow a Sum of Money not exceeding One hundred thousand Pounds to be appropriated for the purpose of carrying on the War, and that he give his Negotiable Note to the respective Lenders on Interest for the Sums by them advanced the same to be paid out of the aforesaid Tax as it shall be brought into the Treasury

Voted, that the Town Treasurer be and he hereby is directed to pay unto Edward Proctor Esq^r. Col^o. of the Boston Regiment, such sums as may be Necessary to defray the Bounty that may be given the **[426.]** Men which shall be Inlisted, as also, the Selectmen of the Town, what may be Sufficient to pay the Men that shall be raised their Mileage

The Article in the Warrant Viz^t. — "To consider and determin upon the most expeditious and equal way of Providing the Towns proportion of Shirts, Shoes, Stockings and Blankets for the

Army agreable to a Resolve of the General Court passed the 21st. of April last — was read — whereupon

Voted, that Isaac Smith Esqr.
Stephen Higginson Esqr.
John Tudor Esqr.
Samuel Brick Esqr.
Herman Brimmer

be a Committee to consider and Report thereon at the Adjournment

Adjourned to Wednesday next being the 14th. of June Inst. at 3 OClock Afternoon

Wednesday the 14th. of June — 3 O.Clock P: M: Met according to Adjournment

The Committee appointed to consider and determin on the most expeditious and equal way of providing the Towns proportion of Shirts Shoes Stockings and Blankets for the Army beg leave to Report, that they are of opinion that the best & most expeditious. Method is to desire the Selectmen to purchase said Articles, on the best terms and as soon **[427.]** as possible, the Selectmen to be furnished with Money for that purpose out of the Town Treasurey and in case there should not be Money Sufficient in the Treasurey, to choose a Committee of three in each Ward to waite on Gentelmen of Property desiring them to Advance the Town what Money they can possibly spare the Money so advanced to be discounted out of the Tax now issuing — ISAAC SMITH p Order

The foregoing Report having been read and considered, the Question was put Whether the same shall be accepted — Passed in the Affermative — also

Voted, that the Sum of One hundred Thousand Pounds be raised by a Tax on Polls & Estates within this Town for the Sole purpose of carrying on the War, the same to be added to the Tax of £100,000 — already granted — also

Voted, that Committees be appointed in each Ward for procuring Subscriptions for Loaning and immediatley paying into the Treasurey the two Hundred Thousand Pounds, for the purposes mentioned in the foregoing Votes

Voted, that the several Companies of the Boston Militia be desired, to appoint at their respective Meetings to be on Thursday next, three Persons out of each Company to procure the Subscriptions aforesaid

Voted, that the following be the head of a Subscription Paper for each Company of the Militia — Vizt.

[428.] The Town of Boston having by a Late Vote determined that the Charge of raising their proportion of Men for the Continental Army over and above the encouragement given by Goverment shall be defreyed by a Town Tax — and having also Voted to borrow a Sum of Money not exceeding two hundred Thousand Pounds, for the purpose of paying the Men to be raised their Bounty and Miladge, and also for procuring Shirts, Blankets, Shoes & Stockings as required of the Town by a late Resolve of the General Assembly; which Money as borrowed is to be paid into the Town Treasurer for which the Treasurer is to give negotiable Notes to the respective Lenders on Interest, which Notes are to be discharged out of the aforesaid Tax as it shall be brought into the Treasury — therefore

We the Subscribers apprehending it to be of the last importance, at the present Crisis that our proportion of Men be immediately raised and the proper Supplies forwarded — hereby chearfully engage to furnish the respective Sums set against our Names

Voted, that Edward Procter Esq^r. Colonel of the Boston Regiment be furnished with one fair Copy for each Company in said Regement

Moved that Col^o. Procter be desired not to exceed £1000 — in the offer of a Town Bounty to the Men that are to be raised" — and the Question was put — Passed in the Negative

[429.] Voted, that it be Left to Col^o. Proctor to procure this Towns proportion of Men to reinforce the Continental Army, on the best terms he is able

Voted, that this Meeting when Adjourned, be to Fryday next 3. O: Clock P: M:

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

Fryday June 16th. — 3. O.Clock Afternoon — Met according to Adjournment

On a Motion made — Voted, that when this Meeting is Adjourned it shall be to Monday next being the 19th Instant — 3 O: Clock Afternoon

On a Motion made, Voted, that the several Captains of the Boston Militia be desired to Notify their respective Companies, that the Meeting relative to raising our proportion of Men for the Continental Army, Stand Adjourned to Monday Next — when it is hoped, that they will give a very general Attendance

Then the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

Monday the 19th of June. 3. O.Clock P: M: Met according to Adjournment

Deacon Tudor in the Chair

There being but very few of the Inhabitants at this Meeting — A Motion was made — That the **[430.]** Sense of the Town or Inhabitants, be taken as to the expediency of proceeding to Buissiness — after some debate — the Motion was withdrawn

Cap^t. Hodson of the Militia moved, that a Committee be now appointed for the purpose of raising the Towns proportion of Men for the Continental Army, and that the Committee set at Fanuiel Hall so long as Col^o. Proctor shall think it expedient — and that no higher sum than the £1000 — be Offered as a boundy — the Motion being Seconded — after some Debates had thereon — the same was withdrawn

It was then moved and Voted, that it be recommended to Col^o. Proctor not to go beyond One Thousand Pounds p Man as a Boundy to such Persons as shall Inlist — also

Voted, that Col^o. Proctor be desired to Collect of the Committee of the several Militia Companies appointed to procure Subscriptions the Amount of those Subscriptions and lodge the same with the Town Clerk a Day before the Adjournment of this Meeting in order to their being then laid before the Town

Adjourned to Fryday next 3. O.Clock Afternoon

Fryday the 23d. Day of June 3. OClock Afternoon met according to Adjournment

[431.] Deacon Tudor in the Chair

Colo. Procter agreeable to the request of the Town, laid before the Meeting the Subscriptions for raising Men, amounting as by Copy on file £140.500

Moved and Voted, that a Committee be now appointed to wait upon the Gentelmen of the Town, in order to procure Subscriptions to the Amount of One hundred fifty nine thousand five hundred Pounds, in Addition to the Sum of £140,500 — already Subscribed for the Sole purpose of carrying on the War

Voted, that Mr. Nathan Frazier
Stephen Higginson Esqr.
Samuel Broom Esqr.
be a Committee for the the Purpose aforesaid

Voted, that the further Sum off One hundred Thousand Pounds be raised by a Tax upon Polls and Estates within this Town in Addition to the Sum of £200,000 already granted for the Sole purpose of carrying on the War

Voted, that the Town Treasurer be and he hereby is impowered to borrow on Interest a Sum of Money not exceeding two-hundred thousand Pounds in addition to the £100,000 — already Voted to be borrowed, for the purpose of carrying on the War, and that he give his Negotiable Notes to the respective Lenders on Interest for the Sum by them Advanced, the same to be paid out of the aforesaid Tax as it shall be brought into the Treasurey

[432.] On a Motion made. Voted, that
Nathaniel Appleton Esqr.
Mr. Joseph Barrel
Mr. Leonard Jarvis
be added to the Committee appointed to procure Subscriptions for the Sole purpose of carrying on the War

Adjourned to Wednesday next 3 OClock Afternoon

Wednesday June 28th. — 3 O.Clock Afternoon Met according to Adjournment

A number of Jurymen, were chosen, and drawn for the next Inferior Court, as will appeared entered in the Jury Book

The Committee appointed to procure Subscriptions agreeable to a Vote of the late Meeting — Reported verbally — That they had Collected of the Inhabitants for the Sole purpose of carrying on the War twenty six thousand Pounds, since the former Subscription — They also acquainted the Town that there had been Collected of the Inhabitants by a Committee of the General Court for the use of this State, One hundred and forty thousand four hundred and Seventy Pounds

It was moved that That the severall Collectors of this Town lay before the Inhabitants, at the Adjourment of this Meeting a

List of such Taxes as has not yet been paid the Persons from whom they were [**433.**] coming having been called upon for the same

In the Course of the debate such Objections were stated as influensed to the Motions being withdrawn

On a Motion Voted that when this Meeting is Adjourned it shall be to Thursday Morning 10. O.Clock

Voted, that directions be given for ringing all the Bells in Town from one quarter of an Houre before 10. O.Clock the Hour of the Adjournment

Voted, that the Constables of the Town be directed, by the Town Clerk to Notify the Inhabitants of the Adjournment, and to press their attendance

Then the Meeting was Adjourned

Thursday the 29th. Day of June 10. O.Clock Forenoon — Met according to Adjournment

On a Motion a Paper called the Crisis N°. 9 was read to the Inhabitants

The Committee appointed to procure Subscriptions agreeable to a Vote at the late Meeting Reported

That the Subscription List for anticipating the Tax for the State laid on this Town to be called in by the 15th. of July next amounts to £145,320 — the Sum Subscribed in the Several Wards, for paying Bounties & Amounts to £150,000 and the Sum Subscribed to the Committee of which Mr. Appleton is Chairman for the same use amount to £27,400

[**434.**] That there remains to be Subscribed for the State £161,680 - - - for the Town £123,000 in the whole £284,680

That the Committee are of Opinion that it will be eligible that the Subscription List be kept open till Saturday next 10. O.Clock in the Hands of Mr. Walley for the State, and Mr. Appleton for the Town; and it cannot be thought that the Inhabitants are so destitute of all regard to their Country, their Brethren in Arms, or to their own Safety as to withold their support on this Interesting occasion — The Committee beg leave to set till said time to compleat their Report

Moved and Voted, that a Committee be appointed to Collect from the Several Captains and the Collectors the Sums Subscribed in the several Wards, and to lay a List of the Subscribers before a Committee of the Town, to be appointed to receive the Same

		Ward.
Voted, that	Nathl. Barber	N°. 1
	Jedediah Parker	2
	Capt. John Ballard	3
	John Cogswell	4
	Capt. William Mackay	5
	John Lowell	6
	Nathan Frazier	7
	Capt. Kneeland	8
	Mr. Clark	9
	Capt. Boyls	10
	Capt. Cook	11
	Henry Bass	12

be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

[**435.**] On a Motion Voted that the Collectors of Taxes be desired to attend with their Tax Books at the Adjournment

A Motion made and carried that a Committee be appointed to receive the Reports of the forenamed Committee of Twelve, and also to devise Ways and Means for immediately compleating the Recruits and Supplies for the Army

Voted, that Sam^{l}. Allen Otis Esq^{r}.
Samuel Barret Esq^{r}.
Nath^{l}. Appleton Esq^{r}.
M^{r}. Leonard Jarvis
Col^{o}. Waters
be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

Voted that when this Meeting is Adjourned, it be to 4. OClock Afternoon

Voted that the Town Cryer be employed to inform the Inhabitants of the Adjournment, and the Important Business then to come before the Town

Adjourned to 4. O: Clock Afternoon

3. OClock P: M: Met according to Adjournment

The Committee appointed in the Forenoon to devise ways and means for the immediate compleating of the Recruits and Supplies — Reported as entered Page 122 in the Quarto-Book — which Report having been read and considered — the Question was put — [**436.**] Whether the same shall be accepted — Passed in the Affermative

Moved and Voted, that the Committee appointed to procure Subscriptions &c be desired to go into the Selectmen's Chamber, that such Persons as have not Subscribed might now have an oppertunity of doing it, as well as those who incline to enlarge their Subscriptions on so interesting an Occasion

Voted, that Col^{o}. Johonnot
Col^{o}. Waters
be added to said Committee

Adjourned to Saturday the 1 Day of July 10. O.Clock Forenoon

Saturday the 1^{t}. Day of July 10 O'Clock Forenoon — Met according to Adjournment

Deacon Tudor in the Chair

On a Motion — Voted, that when this Meeting is Adjourned it shall be to Thursday the 6th. Day of July, 3. O.Clock Afternoon

Voted, that the Town Clerk Issue a Warrant to the Constables, to Notify the Inhabitants of this Adjournment, and the importance of a general attendance also

Voted, that the Town Clerk publish in the several News Papers that this Meeting stands Adjourned to Thursday the 6 Day of July Ins^{t}. 3. O.Clock [**437.**] Afternoon — princepally for the Purpose of receiving the Subscriptions of the Inhabitants for the Advance of their Taxes, which they will be oblidged to pay by the thirteenth of July Current, and that such of the Inhabitants as have not Subscribed for the purpose aforesaid and shall absent themselves from said Adjournment, will be considered as declining any exertions to assist the Publick — also that is earnestly desired, of the Subscribers and Inhabitants to give a General and punctual Attendance — also the Subscription Papers will lay open with M^r^. Walley and M^r^. Appleton

Then the Meeting was Adjourned to the said 6^th^. Day of July, 3. O.Clock P: M

Thursday the 6^th^. Day of July 3 O.Clock Afternoon — Met according to Adjournment

Deacon Tudor in the Chair

The Committee appointed to procure Subscriptions, Reported to the Town that the Subscriptions amount to £31,850 - - -

Moved and Voted, that the Assessors be desired to Attend and inform the Town When they shall be able to deliver the Tax Books to the Collectors

The Assessors agreeable to requirement attended and informed the Town that they hoped to compleat that Buissiness in about ten Days

Moved and Voted, that the Committee relative to Subscriptions of which M^r^. Frazier is [**438.**] Chairman, be desired to proceed in Order to Compleat the Subscriptions

On a Motion Voted, that an Addition of the Persons be now made to said Committee

Voted that Ellis Gray Esq^r^.
Allen Otis Esq^r^.
Ebenezer Hancock Esq^r^.

be added to the Committee aforesaid for procuring Subscriptions

Adjourned to Tuesday next being the 11^th^. Day of July Ins^t^. 3. O: Clock Afternoon

Tuesday the 11^th^. Day of July. 3. O: Clock Afternoon — Met according to Adjournment

The Committee appointed to borrow Moneys for carrying on the War, being called upon to make Report, acquainted the Town, that they had, Suspended offering the Subscription Papers to the Inhabitants, as they understood the Militia Companies of the several Wards, were assisting said Companies for the purpose of paying the Bounty &c to the Men that are Inlisted. &c. as a Reinforcement to the Continental Army

On a Motion. Voted, that Col^o^ Proctor be directed to pay to one Major two Captains and four Subaltron officers appointed for the Towns proportion of the Militia to be inlisted or draughted [**439.**] Agreeable to a Resolve of the General Court lately Passed, Six hundred Pounds, each out of the Monies to be raised for paying the Bounties &c to the Men who are to reinforce the Continental Army

A Motion was made, that an Additional Grant of £100.000 — be now made for the sole purpose of carrying on the War. — the Motion was withdrawn, on account of another Motion made, for an Adjournment [*the* Meeting bein thire *illegible.*]

Voted, that when this Meeting is Adjourned it shall be to Monday next the 17th. Day of July Inst. 3. O.Clock Afternoon

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

Monday the 17th. Day of July 3. OClock, Afternoon — Met according to Adjournment

On a Motion made Voted, that Col°. Proctor be directed, to pay to one Major, two Captains and four Subaltron Officers appointed over the Towns proportion of the Militia raised by a Resolve of the General Assembly lately Passed; Six hundred Pounds each, in addition to the former Grants of Six hundred Pounds, made the seventh of July, and this out of the Moneys to be raised for paying the Bounties of the Men raised to reinforce the Continental Army

Voted, that the sum of Two hundred and Fifty thousand Pounds, be raised by a Tax upon [**440.**] Polls, and Estates, within this Town, in addition to the Sum of three hundred Thousand Pounds already granted by the Town for the sole purpose of carrying on the War the same to be added to the next Tax, — also

Voted, that the Town Treasurer be and he hereby is impowered and directed to borrow a Sum of Money, not exceeding Two hundred and Fifty Thousand Pounds in addition to the Three hundred Thousand Pounds already Voted, by the Town for the Sole purpose of carrying on the War, and that said Treasurer give his negotiable Notes to the respective Lenders on Interest for the Sums by them advanced, the Same to be paid out of the Tax, already Issued

It was then Moved, that this Meeting be dessolved

And the Meeting was accordingly dessolved

[Several entries follow out of chronological order, but as they appear in original. — W. H. W.]

At the Adjournment of the May Meeting, Wednesday the 14th Day of June 10. O.Clock Forenoon

General Hancock the Moderator of the Meeting, and Deacon Tudor the Moderator Pro. Tem°. not attending the former being Oblidged to attend the General Assembly

David Jeffries Esqr. was chosen Moderator during the absence of General Hancock and Deacon Tudor

[**441.**] On a Motion made Voted, that this Meeting be Adjourned to the Afternoon 4. O.Clock, in hopes of a more general attendance of the Inhabitants

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

4. O'Clock Afternoon — Met according to Adjournment.

As very few of the Inhabitants Attended, a Motion was made and obtained, that when this Meeting is Adjourned, it shall be to Fryday the 16th of June 4. O'.Clock Afternoon.

A Motion was then made but did not obtain, that the Town now proceed to the consideration of proper Allowances to the Schoolmasters, &c.

Adjourned to Fryday next 4. OClock Afternoon

Fryday June 16th. 4. O.Clock Afternoon — Met according to Adjournment

David Jeffries Esqr. Moderator Pro: Temo. not attending

Deacon Tudor took the Chair

On a Motion, Voted, that when this Meeting is Adjourned, it shall be to Monday next. 4. O.Clock in the Afternoon

On a Motion, Voted, that the Town Clerk advertize in the several News Papers, the time to which Meeting stands Adjourned also that grants of Money are then to be made for the Schoolmasters, for their Salaries &c. and other important business to be Transacted

[**442.**] Adjourned to Monday next being being the 19th. of June Inst. 4. O.Clock: P: M: in the Afternoon

Monday June 19th. 4. O.Clock P: M: Met according to Adjournment

The Committee appointed to consider of proper and Adequate Grants to the School Masters — Reported — whereupon a Motion was made that said Report be now taken up and acted upon — and the Question being accordingly put Passed in the Negative

The Town Treasurer having requested that he might be impowered to procure at the Towns Expence printed Blanks, that greater dispatch may be made, in giving Notes to the respective Subscribers for the Sums by them Loaned and paid into the Town Treasurey for the purpose of paying the Men to be raised as a reinforcement to the Continental Army, their Bounty, Mileage &c as also for procuring Shoes, Stockings, Shirts and Blankets — the Question was accordingly put — and Passed in the Affermative

Adjourned to Fryday next being the 23d. of June Inst. 3. O.Clock in the Afternoon

Fryday June 23d. 3 OClock in the Afternoon — Met according to Adjournment

The Report of the Committee relative to the Schoolmasters Salaries being again read; the same as Amended by the Town is as follows — Vizt.

[**443.**] The Committee appointed to consider and Report proper and adequate Grants to the Schoolmasters, are of opinion — that Mr. Samuel Hunt Master of the South Gramer School, be allowed in Specie the Sum of Ninety Pounds, for Six Months Salary, the same to commence the first of March, last, or a Sum in paper Money equal to the Exchange, said Exchange to be settled by the Selectmen at the date of their Draughts for payment according to the rate of Gold and Silver among the Merchants — and that the Master of the North Writing School have an Additional allowance of fourteen pounds p Annum for House Rent, or the Exchange as aforesaid — And that all the Towns Schoolmasters, and Ushers receive an addition to their Salaries in the same proportion and manner

NATHANIEL APPLETON p Order.

The foregoing Report amended having been again read — the

Question was put, Whether the same shall be accepted — Passed in the Affermative

On a Motion made Voted, that the Town will support the Collectors of Taxes in any Advice or legal Prosecutions relative to Collecting of Taxes which the Selectmen shall Judge to be necessary; and the Selectmen are directed to give their Draughts on the Town Treasurer for any charge that may arise thereon

On a Motion made. Voted that a Committee be appointed to consider and Report at the Adjournment of this Meeting, what Sum it is necessary for the Town to raise in order to defray the Charges & Expencies of the Current year; as also what will be a proper and **[444.]** Adequate Allowance to the Assessors for their services

Voted that Ebenezer Storer Esq^r.
William Cooper
Thomas Daws Esq^r.
M^r. Joseph Barrel
M^r. Samuel Eliot

be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

Adjourned to Wednesday next the 23^d. [*sic*] Ins^t. 4 O.Clock in the Afternoon

Wednesday June 28^th. [*sic*] 4. O.Clock. Afternoon — Met according to Adjournment

Deacon Tudor in the Chair

The Committee appointed to consider what Sums may be necessary for the Town to raise to defray the Charges of the present Year, as also what will be a proper Allowance to the Assessors for their servicies — Reported whereupon it was moved and Voted, that the consideration of this Report be referred to the Adjournment of this Meeting

Voted, that when this Meeting is Adjourned, it shall be to Mormow. 12. O.Clock Forenoon

Then the Meeting was Adjourned

Wednesday the 29^th. [*sic*] Day of June 12. O.Clock Forenoon — Met according to Adjournment

Deacon Tudor

in the Chair

[445.] The several Committees chosen by the Town not being able to Report this Forenoon it was motioned that this Meeting, be Adjourned to 5. O.Clock Afternoon

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

5 O'Clock Afternoon — Met according to Adjournment

The Report of the Committee relative to allowance to the Assessors &c was again read, and being amended by the Town is as follows — Viz^t.

The Committee appointed to consider what Sums may be necessary for the Town to raise to defrey the Charges of the Present year, as also what will be a proper allowance to the Assessors for their Services — beg leave to Report

That they have attended the Business and on due consideration find themselves so intirely unacquainted with the affairs of the Town and the usual Charges especially in the present time, as to be utterly incompitent to Judge of the Sum necessary to be raised, and would therefore humbly suggest that it be referred to the Gentelmen Selectmen and Overseers of the Poor, who are much better acquainted with the State of the Town, and consequently better able to Judge of the Sum wanted

The Committee further Report, That in their Opinion there ought to be allowed to the Assessors from the 2^d^. of February last Six Shillings p Day in Silver Money, or Paper at the Rate of Silver and Gold, among the Merchants, the Exchange to be **[446.]** The same as was the Schoolmasters; and that a further allowance of Two Thousand Pounds, at least ought to be made them for being kept out of the Sum due to them for past Services

The foregoing Report as amended having been again read — the Question was put — Whether the same shall be accepted — Passed in the Affermative

Voted, that the Sum of Three hundred thousand Pounds be raised by a Tax upon Polls and Estates within this Town for the Relief of the Poor and defraying other necessary Charges; Fifty Thousand Pounds thereof to be appropriated for the support of the Almshouse — the same to be added to the next Tax

On a Motion made Voted, that the Town Treasurer be paid his Salary quarterly as the Schoolmasters are drawn for

On a Motion Voted, that when this Meeting is Adjourned it shall be to the First Tuesday in August next 10. O.Clock P: M:

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

August 1. Tuesday 3. O.Clock P: M: Met according to Adjournment

Deacon Tudor and Treasurer Jeffries the Moderators Pro Tem^o^. being absent

[447.] Hon^ble^. Oliver Wendell Esq^r^. was chosen Moderator Pro Tem^o^.

Cap^t^. Ballard one of the Committee relative to the North Battery Reported Verbally, whereby it appeared that the Title of the Towns Lands at the North Battery was clear — on which a Motion was made and carried

That the Selectmen be desired and impowered to make such an improvement of the Towns Estate at the North Battery as to them shall appear most for the Interest of the Town

On a Motion made Voted, that the Selectmen draw for the Sum of Twenty five hundred Pounds, in faviour of the Town Treasurer on Account of his Salary the Current Year

On a Motion Voted, that the Draught now issued by the Selectmen in faviour of the Assessors for £20.700 to be paid out of the first Moneys that shall be received into the Treasury, or that the Treasurer be impowered to give his Negotiable Notes on Interest for said Sum

On a Motion made by M^r^. Gray

Voted, that the Selectmen give the Town Clerk a draught on the

Treasurer for three thousand Pounds on Account of his Salary for the present Year, and that the Treasurer be impowered to give his Negotiable Notes for the Same on Interest if desired

Voted, that all Matters and things unfinished be referred to the Next General Town Meeting

Then the Meeting was dissolved

[**448.**] At a Meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the Town of Boston of Twenty one Years of Age and upwards, qualified as the Constitution prescribes and legally warned in Publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneieul Hall on Monday the 4th. Day of September A.D. 1780 — 9 O.Clock A: M

Prayer was made by the Revd. Mr. Lotherop

Warrant for calling the Meeting read

A Resolve of the Convention passed the 16th. Day of June 1780 relative to the choice of a Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Six Senators for the County of Suffolk — read

Persons Voted, for as Governor with the Number of Votes, for each Person — Vizt.

	Votes.
Honble. James Bowdoin Esqr.	64
Honble. Samuel Adams Esqr.	1
Honble. John Hancock Esqr.	858
	923

On a Motion, Voted, that the Town will now come to the choice of a Lieutenant Governor

It was then declared by the Selectmen, that no Votes, will be received, but such as are unfolded, and that they purpose the Poll be closed at One O.Clock

Persons Voted, for as Lieutenant Governor, with the Number of Votes for each Person Vizt.

	Votes.
[**449.**] Honble. James Bowdoin Esqr.	30
Honble. Samuel Adams Esqr.	9
Honble. Jeremiah Powell Esqr.	167
Honble. Benjamin Greanleaff Esqr.	2
Honble. Walter Spooner	8
Honble. Artemas Ward	14
Honble. William Sever Esqr.	4
Honble. Thomas Cushing Esqr.	49
Honble. John Hancock Esqr.	2
Honble. Oliver Wendell Esqr.	3
Honble. James Warren Esqr.	1
Honble. John Pitts Esq.	1
William Heath Esqr.	1
Jonathan Jackson Esqr.	3
John Lowell Esqr.	15
Azor Orn Esqr.	20
Caleb Davis Esqr.	4

	Votes
Mr. Edward Green	1
James Syllman Esqr.	2
Mr. William Dennie	1
Mr. Peter Edes	2
	339

Adjourned to 4 O'Clock P: M:

4 O.Clock P: M: Met according to Adjournment

On a Motion made Voted, to close the Poll for Senators, at 6 O'Clock

On a Motion made Voted, to reconsider the foregoing Vote, and that the Poll for Senators be closed at half past Five O'Clock

[450.] Persons Voted, for as Senators for the County of Suffolk with the Number of Votes, for each Person — Vizt.

	Votes.
Honble. Thomas Cushing Esqr.	234
Honble. Jeremiah Powell Esqr.	214
Honble. John Pitts Esqr.	250
Honble. Jabez Fisher Esqr.	275
Honble. Samuel Nyles Esqr.	259
Increase Sumner Esqr.	259
John Lowell Esqr.	73
Honble. Benjamin White Esqr.	6
Honble. James Bowdoin Esqr.	31
Honble. Oliver Wendell Esqr.	30
Cotton Tuffts Esqr.	7
Richard Cranch Esqr.	9
Honble. Benjamin Austin Esqr.	11
Caleb Davis Esqr.	4
Mr. Joseph Barrel	1
Ellis Gray Esqr.	4
William Tudor Esqr.	1
Honble. Henry Gardner Esqr.	2
Mr. Edward Payne	1
Honble. William Phillips Esqr.	2
Honble. Samuel Adams Esqr.	1
Samuel Broom Esqr.	1
Mr. Samuel Deming	1
Thomas Daws Esqr.	1

Attested, Copies of the Persons Voted for as Governor Leut. Governor, and Senators for the County of Suffolk, were transmitted to the Secretary of this State and the Inclosed sealed up in Town Meeting, Superscribed as follows — Vizt.

For
[451.] The Honble. Samuel Adams Esqr.
Secretary
of the Commonwealth
of Massachusetts

The number of Votes, of the Town of Boston for a Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Six Senators for the County of Suffolk, certified within and Sealed up in Town Meeting

Then the Meeting was dissolved

At a Meeting of the Freeholders an Other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Wednesday the 11th. Day of October Anno Domini 1780 — 10 O'Clock Forenoon

Prayer was made by the Revd. Mr. Howard

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read

A Resolve of the Convention passed the 16th. Day of June 1780 — relative to the Choice of Governor, Lieut. Governor Senators and Representatives — read

The Town having determined to choose Seven Persons to Represent them in the Great and General Court, or Assembly to be held at the State House in Boston upon Wednesday the 25th. Day of October Current.

[**452.**] Agreeable to a Resolve of Convention passed the 16th. Day of June last — The Inhabitants were accordingly directed, to withdraw, and bring in their Votes for Seven Representatives, and then it was Declared by the Selectmen that no Votes will be received, but such as are unfolded; and that they propose the Poll shall be closed at 12. O.Clock

The Votes being brought in for Seven Representatives, the number of the same were found to be One hundred Eighty five and upon sorting them it appeared, that the following Persons, were chose Vizt.

	Votes
Caleb Davis Esqr.	181
Thomas Daws Esqr.	178
John Lowell Esqr.	181
Thomas Walley Esqr.	172
Samuel Austin Esqr.	157
John Rowe Esqr.	179
Samuel Barrett Esqr.	150

The choice of Representatives being over, and declared by the Selectmen; the Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for a Moderator of this Meeting in order that the Town may proceed in transacting the Other Affairs Mentioned in the Warrant; accordingly the Inhabitants withdrew and brought in their Votes, and upon sorting them it appeared that

John Lowell Esqr.

was chosen Moderator, unanimously

[**453.**] The Article in the Warrant Vizt. — "To consider of the Measures that shall be taken for procuring Beef for the Army in conformity to a Resolve of the General Assembly passed the 25th. of September last" — was read — whereupon it was moved and Voted, that a Committee be now appointed to take this Matter into consideration and Report at the Adjournment of this Meeting what they shall Judge best to be done thereon — also

Voted, that Caleb Davis Esq^r^.
Thomas Daws Esq^r^.
Nathaniel Appleton Esq^r^.
M^r^. Thomas Walley
Stephen Higginson Esq^r^.
M^r^. Samuel Brick
Samuel Ruggles Esq^r^.
be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

The Article in the Warrant Viz^t^. "To consider whether Instructions shall be given to the Representatives, that shall be chosen" — was read, and after some debate it was moved, and carried, that the further consideration thereof be referred to the Adjournment

The Article in the Warrant Viz^t^. "To consider whether any Measures shall be taken relative to the Towns, Interest at South Battery." — was read — whereupon

Voted, that the Selectmen be a Committee for the consideration of this Matter and to Report at the Adjournment

[**454.**] Voted, that when this Meeting be Adjourn'd it be to Monday next. 10. O.Clock Forenoon

On a Motion, Voted, that the Town Clerk be directed to Notify the Inhabitants, in the Thursdays and Mondays Papers of the Time to which this Meeting may be Adjourned, and that business which relates to the Supply of the Army and other important matters are then to be acted upon — also

Voted, that this Meeting be Adjourned to Monday next being the 16th. Instant. 10. OClock

Monday October 16th. 10. O.Clock Forenoon — Met according to Adjournment

On a Motion, Voted, that the Selectmen be directed to enjoin the Attendance of four Constables at least with the Badge of their Office at all Town Meetings, and the Adjournment of such Meetings.

The Committee appointed to consider and Report some Method to be Adopted by the Town to enable them to comply with a Requisition of the General Court of the 25th. of September last for supplying the Army with Beef have attended that service, and Reported accordingly — the following Votes, in conformity to said Report were passed by the Town Viz^t^.

Whereas an immediate complyance with the Requisition of the 25th. of September last for supplying the Army with Beef is absolutely necessary & essential [**455.**] to the Safety of this and the United States, a consideration which has always raised and animated the Inhabitants of this Town to the most Manly and Spirited exertions, and as the Money cannot be Collected by Taxes in season to make the necessary purchases — therefore

Voted, that the Town Treasurer be and he hereby is impowered and directed to borrow a Sum not exceeding Six Thousand two hundred and Fifty pounds of the new Emission — and to induce Gentelmen of Property the more readily and Speedily to advance their Moneys, and as an allowance for any inconvenience the Persons lending may sustain by hastely raising the Same — The Treasurer is hereby directed to give his Notes upon Interest payable in three Months with an allowance of five p C^t. on the same, on or before the Thirteenth Day of October Ins^t. ; said Money to be appropriated solely for the complying with the Requisition aforesaid, and for carrying on the War

And the more effectually to prevent any Injustice being done either to the Town or the Lender

Voted, that the Notes given by the Treasurer shall be in the form following — Viz^t.

Boston — 1780.

In pursuance of a Vote of the Town passed the 16th. of October, 1780. Borrowed and received of: A: B. the sum of the new Emission to enable the Town to comply with a Requisition of the General Court of the 25th. of September last to procure Beef for the Army; which Sum I promise to repay said A: B. **[456.]** Or Bearer in Three Months from the above date, with Lawfull Interest for the Same till paid, the sum so repaid to be equal in value to the sum received, in the Judgement of the Committee appointed by the Town to determine the same

Voted, that John Scollay Esq^r.
M^r. Edward Payne
Ezekiel Price Esq^r.
be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

And whereas Strict Justice as well as the strictest policy dictates that the Treasurer should be enabled punctually to discharge said Notes at the time limetted for Payment

Voted, that the Sum of Two hundred and Fifty thousand Pounds in Continental Bills of Credit equal to the sum of Six Thousand two hundred and Fifty Pounds of the new Emission be immediately Assessed on the Polls, and Estates of the Inhabitants of this Town which Sums the Assessors are hereby directed to add to the Town Tax they are now making to be appropriated soley for the purpose aforesaid

And whereas it is absolutely necessary that the Moneys should be immediately Collected, to prevent the Town being subjected to pay a large fine in case of delay, and that the business may be expidited as much as possible

Voted, that Stephen Higginson
Samuel Breck
Ellis Gray
[457.] Samuel Broom
Leonard Jarvis
Isaac Smith
Josiah Waters Esq^r.
be a Committee to apply to the Inhabitants for an Immediate loan of Money to the Town for the purposes and on the Conditions as aforesaid as the Treasurer is directed to employ one or more trusty Person or Persons to Collect the Money that may be Subscribed — also

Voted, that John Lucas Esq^r.
Cap^t. Amasa Davis
M^r. Ebenezer Dorr

be a Committee to receive the Money of the Town Treasurer or such part of it as shall be necessary to enable the Town to comply with the Requisition aforesaid and pay the same to the Committee appointed by the General Court to purchase Supplies for the Army or to their Order taking duplicate Receipts therefor Agreeable to the directions given in said Resolve of the General Court — also

Voted, that the Collectors of Taxes be and they hereby are directed to take the Notes given by the Treasurer for the above purpose in payment for the Tax levied to Redeem said Notes, Allowing the Interest that may be due thereon, and the Treasurer is directed to receive them of the Collectors, accordingly in payment of said Tax

The Committee appointed to consider whether any Measures shall be taken relative to the Towns Interest at the South Battery — Reported that they were not as yet able to Report these Matters at large

[458.] Voted, that the Selectmen be directed to lay before the Town at the next General Town Meeting a State of the Towns Real Estate, and to insert in the Warrant of said Meeting a Clause for considering the expediency of disposing of any part of the Towns Lands on the Neck or elsewhere

Voted, that Richard Devens Esq^r.
Ellis Gray Esq^r.
Nathaniel Appleton Esq^r.
Stephen Higginson Esq^r.
William Cooper Esq^r.

be a Committee to prepare Instructions for our Representatives, and Report the same at the next Meeting

Voted, that all Matters unfinished at this Meeting be referred over to the next

On a Motion, Voted, that the Thanks of this Town be and hereby are given to the Hon^ble. John Hancock Esq^r. for his services as a Representative a Number of years past — The Town at the same Time cannot but express their high Satisfaction of the present of his being Seen in a Department of this Commonwealth, where his Ability and disinterested Zeal for the Securiety and wellfare of this, and the other United States may be more conspicuously displayed, than in any Office that is within the power of this Town alone to bestow — also Voted that the Town Clerk present him with an attested Copy of this Vote

[459.] Then the Meeting was dissolved

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston at Faneuil Hall Monday the 30^th. Day of October 1780

The Inhabitants met, and it appearing that there had been an omission of the Constables in not warning Ward N^o. 1. the Meeting was consequently set aside

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At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned, in publick Town Meeting, Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Thursday the 2^{d}. Day of November Anno Domini 1780

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for a Moderator of this Meeting, and the same being brought in and Sorted, it appeared that

Ellis Gray Esq^{r}. was chosen Moderator

The Committee appointed at a late Meeting to prepare a Draught of Instructions for our Representatives in General Assembly Reported the following Draught — Viz^{t}.

[**460.**] To Caleb Davis Esq^{r}.
John Lowell Esq^{r}.
Thomas Dawes Esq^{r}.
M^{r}. Thomas Walley
M^{r}. Samuel Austin
John Rowe Esq^{r}. and
Samuel Barrett Esq^{r}.

Gentlemen

Your Appointment at this important Crisis is a high Testimoney of the Publick Affection, to you, and of their confidence in your abilities and integrity: But as we judge you wish to feel yourselves supported by your constituents in the Discharge of your Duty, we have seen fit to give you the following Instructions; And we Depend upon the utmost exertion of your influence to carry them into effect. We are now entered upon a new form of Government, and from the excellency of its constitution, if rightly administred, we might promise ourselves much Publick felicity. — But our existence under any forms of freedom or happiness, depending upon our success against that Power whose yoke we have shaken Off, we consider an Attention to the Army as a Matter of the highest importance to us, and what ought to be the first Object of your regards: — We therefore, most solemly enjoin it upon you to take immediate steps for filling up our quota during the War; and to provide for the Supply of every thing necessary for the comfort & Convenience of both Officers and Men; — and we conceive that it is highly expedient that their pay henceforth be made in Gold or Silver [**461.**] And all promises to them punctually Complied with; — even a Momentary inattention to their wants we consider as highly criminal

At a Time when our resources, our Alliances and abilities are greater than ever, we behold the independance of our country wounded and strugling under the loss of Publick Faith, without enquiring into the Policy of former Administrations, or criminating them or ourselves for mistaken ideas of finance, — we conceive that Publick, and Private credit rests upon the same basis of integrity and honour, of ecconimy and punctuality: — and we instruct you to revise all the Laws now existing with Respect to our paper currency, and to use your influence to Obtain a Repeal of any part of them which may appear inconsistent with these principles.

Taught by experience, that all land embargoes, all commercial restrictions between the several States, are contrary of Sound policy and those social, and Friendly principles which unite our common Interest, we direct you by no means to consent to them — On the Other hand, we have Seen with concern, an ellicit Trade carrying on with our inveterate Enemies, this we conceive to be highly opposed to all the Principles of Policy and Wisdom. inconsistant with our Pretentions, injurious to our generious Allies, and what ought to be prohibited under the severiest penalties.

The frequent escape of Prisoners of War is so alarming — in itself, and so dishonourable to our police, as to require an immediate Remedy — we Object not to their enjoying all the Priviledges of humanity which their Situation and ours will Admit of; **[462.]** But surely these ought not to operate as a facility of escaping so injurious and disreputable to us

The protection of our two long neglected sea coasts, is so important, and what comes so Naturally under the concern of the Representatives of a commercial City, that we think it needless to Instruct you upon it. An enquirey into the State of the Treasury, and a frequent Adjustment of that and all other Publick Accounts. A knowlidge of the Publick debts, and the provissions, made for the Discharge of them, are certainly within the Line of your Duty.

Cultivate a frequent correspondence with our Sister States, acquaint yourselves with their Wants and resources, by a reciprocity of Good Offices, Mutual Affection will be encreased, and by a union of force the Designes of our enemies will be Defeated.

In a Word, make our most excellent Constitution the Rule of your Conduct; be governed by its principles, and permit no law contrary to them to take place; cherish the Interest of literature and the sciences, of Virtue and piety; and you cannot fail of that highest reward in a republick, the approbation of your Fellow Citizens

The foregoing Report having been read & considered; the Question was put — Viz^t. — Whether the Same shall be accepted — Passed in the Affermative

The Article in the Warrant Viz^t. — To receive the Report of the Committee appointed to obtain Subscriptions for procuring Beef for the Army" was read, and the Committee having Reported verbally; were enjoined **[463.]** To proceed, in filling up the Subscription Paper [*duplicate entry in original.* — W. H. W.]

The Article in the Warrant. Viz^t. — To receive the Report of the Committee appointed to Obtain — Subscriptions for procuring Beef for the Army." was read, and the Committee having Reported verbally: were enjoined to proceed, in filling up the Subscription Paper.

The Article in the Warrant Viz^t. To consider what Measures shall be taken with respect to several Persons who are taxed in this town while Resident in other Towns" — was read — whereupon — Voted, that the Selectmen, be and hereby are Authorized, and impowered, to settle these disputes by referrence or otherways

The Article in the Warrant Viz^t. "To consider, the Petition of

Cap^{t}. Gustavers Fellows, that he may be paid what is due to him from the Town in Moneys equal in value to the Money he has advanced" — was read, whereupon — Voted, that

John Scollay Esq^{r}.
Ezekiel Price Esq^{r}.
M^{r}. Edward Payne

be a Committee to examine his Account, and determine what Money is due to him in equity

The Article in the Warrant Viz^{t}. — To consider of the expediency of disposing of any, part of the Towns Lands on the Neck or elsewhere — read — whereupon after some debate, it was moved and carried, that the further consideration of this Matter be referred to the Annual Town Meeting in March next

[**464.**] On a Motion Voted, that a Committee be appointed to prepare an Address to his Excellency John Hancock Esq^{r}. congratulating him on his late appointment to the Chief Seat of Goverment in this Commonwealth — &c.

Voted, that Ellis Gray Esq^{r}. the Moderator
William Cooper
John Brown
Ezekiel Price Esq^{r}.
M^{r}. Tuttle Hubbard
David Jeffries Esq^{r}.
William Tudor Esq^{r}.

be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

Adjourned to Saturday next. 11. O'Clock

Saturday November 4th. Met According to Adjournment

The Committee appointed to draught an Address to His Excellency Governor Hancock, on his advancement to the chief Seat of Government in this Commonwealth Reported as follows Viz^{t}.

May it please your Excellency

The Freeholders & Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, in Town Meeting Assembled with great respect and Sincere pleasure take this early apportunity to congratulate your Excellency on your Appointment as first Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, by the almost unanimous Sufferages of the People —

[**465.**] The early and decisive part taken by your Excellency at the commencement of the present contest — the warmth of your patriotick Affection evinced in the sacrifises you have made, and the great Assiduity with which you have discharged the various Trusts, reposed in you, affords the brightest prospect, that your Talents will still be employed, with honor & Success, in promoting the security and Wellfare of this & the Other United States.

That generous concern you have always expressed for the Interest of this Metropolis, is a pleasing pledge that the Interest with which the general Good is so nearly connected, will now be more peculiarly taken under your Excellencies, patronage and protection

Your Excellency may rely upon our contributing every thing in our power to promote the ease & happiness of your Administration

The foregoing Report having been read and considered — the Question was put — Vizt. — Whether the Town will accept the Same — passed in the Affermative, unanimously — also —

Voted, that the Town Clerk prepare a fair draught of this Address & that

Ellis Gray Esqr. Moderator
William Cooper
John Brown
Ezekiel Price
Tuttle Hubbard
David Jeffries
William Tudor Esqr.

[466.] Be and hereby are appointed a Committee to wait upon his Excellency, and in the name of the Town, to present him with said Address

On a Motion made — Voted, that this Meeting be Adjourned to the 14th Day of November next — 3. O.Clock Afternoon

Tuesday November 14th. 1780. 3. O.Clock P: M: Met according to Adjournment

Mr. Gray the Moderator of this Meeting having, acquainted the Town that he was so unwell as not to be able to give his attendance at this Meeting

The Inhabitants were then directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes, for a Moderator Pro Temo. and the same being brought in and sorted, it appeared that

Ezekiel Price Esqr.

was chosen Moderator Pro : Temo.

The Committee appointed to present the Address of the Town to his Excellency the Governer reported, that his Excellency was pleased to Return the following Answer — Vizt.

Mr. Moderator and Gentlemen

The high esteem in which I have always held the respectable Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, hightens the pleasure with which I receive their kind and Affectionate Address. — To their cander **[467.]** and good Will I am indebted for my first appearance in publick Character, and this debt is greatley enlarged by their kind acceptance of my feeble efforts, to promote the securiety and wellfare of this and the Other United States — The assurance of their support in the discharge of the important trust now reposed in me by the People of this Commonwealth, is greatly animating and demands my gratitude — It must ever be my inclination and study, as it is my indisputable duty, to promote as far as I am able, the prosperity of this Metropolis, with which the general Good is so nearly connected; and the Success of every Measure for this purpose, will Add to my happiness

Boston November 6th. 1780.

John Hancock

The Committee appointed to consider the Petition of Capt. Gustavus Fellows that he may be paid what is due to him from the Town, in Monies equal in value to the Money he has Advanced" — Reported and after some debate had thereon, it was Moved and

Voted, that the consideration of this Petition be referred over to the Adjournment

The Meeting was then Adjourned to Fryday next — 3. O.Clock in the Afternoon

Fryday the 17th. Day of November 1780. 3. O.Clock P: M: Met according to Adjournment —

Mr. Gray in the Chair

The Committee appointed to examine the demands of Capt. Gustavus Fellows, and determine **[468.]** what Moneys is due to him in equity, the Sum of Twenty one Thousand one hundred and forty eight Pounds nine Shillings and two pence Money of the Old Emission for Moneys by him Advanced for the Town — Also that there is due to him the Sum of twelve Thousand eight hundred and Ninety five pounds, nine Shillings and two pence, being the real depreciation of Currant Money — between October 1778. when Capt. Fellows lent the Town — Fourteen hundred and Five pounds Ten Shillings. the 25th. June 1779 — the time he received it

JOHN SCOLLAY. EZEKIEL PRICE

The foregoing Report having been read, and considered — the Question was put Vizt. Whether the same shall be accepted — Passed in the Affermative

On a Motion Voted, that all Matters and things unfinished at this Meeting be referred over to the next General Town Meeting

Then the Meeting was dessolved

At a Meeting of the Freeholders an Other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legaley warned; in publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Tuesday the 12th. Day of December A: D: 1780

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read

[469.] The Inhabitants having given their Votes for a Moderator, and the same being sorted &c — it appeared, that

John Lowell Esqr.

was chosen Moderator of this Meeting

Resolve of the General Assembly relative to raising Recruits for the Continental Army — read

The Article in the Warrant. Vizt. — "To agree and determine upon the best and most efficatious Means for the speedy raising this Towns proportion of effective Men for the Continental Army as pointed out and recommended. by the Resolve aforesaid" — was read, and after considerable debate, it was Moved and Voted, that a Committee be appointed to take the Resolve of the General Court for raising this Towns proportion of Men for the Continental Army into Consideration, and Report what Measures they shall Judge best to be adopted by the Town for carrying the same into speedy execution — also

Voted, that John Lowell Esqr.
Colo. Proctor
Ellis Gray Esqr.
Capt. Sarson Belcher

Col^{o}. Daws
D^{r}. Jarvis
Col^{o}. Joseph Webb
Cap^{t}. Amasa Davis
John Greenough Esq^{r}.

be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

[470.] On a Motion Voted, that when this Meeting is Adjourned, it be Adjourned to to Morrow Afternoon, 3. O'Clock then to meet at the Representatives Chamber

Then the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

Wednesday December the 13th. 3. O.Clock P: M: met at the Representatives Chamber according to Adjournment

The Committee appointed to prepare a plan for raising this Towns proportion of Men for the Continental Army, Agreeable to the Resolve of the General Court of the 2d. Day of December Instant Report as their Opinion, that the same be raised in the following Manner — Viz^{t}.

That the one hundred and Eighty one Men required be apportioned on the several Wards of the Town in the proportion hereafter stated — Viz^{t}.

Ward - - - - - -	N°. 1	- - - - - 3 Men
Ward - - - - - -	2	- - - - - 5
Ward - - - - - -	3	- - - 6
Ward - - - - - -	4	- - - - - 8
Ward - - - - - -	5	- - - - - 8
Ward - - - - - -	6	- - - - - 17
Ward - - - - - -	7	- - - - - 12
Ward - - - - - -	8	- - - - - 19
Ward - - - - - -	9	- - - - - 28
Ward - - - - - -	10	- - - - - 26
Ward - - - - - -	11	- - - - - 26
Ward - - - - - -	12	- - - - - 23

[471.] And that a Committee be chosen of two Persons in each Ward, and another at Large for each Ward to Class the several Inhabitants in the respective Wards, into as many Classes, as there are Soldiers to be raised in each Ward, and to form their Classes in such manner as to make the Several Classes as nearly equal in property and in number of Polls, as may be with convenience and that the business be immediately done & Report made to the Town for their acceptance at a very short Adjournment

JOHN LOWELL p Order

The foregoing Report having been read — after longe debate had thereon the Question was put — Viz^{t}. " Whether this Report shall be accepted — Passed in the Affermative — also

Ward

Voted, that John R. Sigoney - - - - - - - - - - - - 1.
Cap^{t}. Silas Atkins
Col^{o}. Proctor

Ward

Capt Elias Parkman - - - - - - - - - - - 2.
Mr. Henry Robey
Colo. Symms

Capt. John Wells - - - - - - - - - - - 3.
Capt. Nathl. Fellows
Mr. Daniel Parker

Mr. Samuel Parkman - - - - - - - - - - 4.
Colo. Francis Shaw
Capt. John Ballard

Capt. William Mackey - - - - - - - - - 5.
Capt. John Pulling
Colo. Nathaniel Barber

Ward

[472.] Deacon Samuel Barret - - - - - - - - - 6.
Mr. Moses Grant
Capt. Alexander Hodgden

Mr. Nathan Frazier - - - - - - - - - - 7
Capt. Job Prince Senr.
Eliis Gray Esqr.

Capt. John Langdon - - - - - - - - - - 8
Stephen Higginson Esqr. - - - - - - - -
Joseph Barrell Esqr.

Mr. Bartho. Kneeland - - - - - - - - - - 9.
Mr. Leonard Jarvis
Capt. Sarson Belcher

Thomas Walley - - - - - - - - - - - 10.
Colo. Joseph Webb
Colo. Thomas Daws

Mr. John Tileston 11
Mr. Joseph Peirce
Deacon John Preston

John Lucas Esqr. 12
Mr. Harman Brimmer
Colo. Josiah Waters

be and hereby are appointed a Committee to Class, the several Wards, as permitted by a late Resolve of the General Assembly of this Commonwealth relative to raising Men for the Continental Army passed the 29th. of November last

[473.] On a Motion Voted. that a Committtee be now appointed to consider and Report, the best plan for inlisting this Towns proportion of the Continental Army

Voted, that Col^{o}. Proctor
Col^{o}. Joseph Webb
Nath^{l}. Appleton Esq^{r}.
Cap^{t}. Gowan Brown
Major Melville
be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid to Report as Soon as may be

On a Motion Voted, that the Constables of the Town, be directed to Notify the foregoing Committee to meet at the Selectmens Chamber to Morrow Morning 9. O.Clock. Forenoon

On a Motion Voted, that the Assessors and Collectors of Taxes, be desired to let the Committee for Classing the Inhabitants have the use of their Books, as they may have occasion

Adjourned to Fryday next 3. O.Clock Afternoon then to meet at the Representatives Chamber

Fryday the 15th. Day of December 3. O.Clock Afternoon, Met according to Adjournment

The Committee of Five appointed to devise a plan for the Raising this Towns Proportion of Men for the Continental Army — Reported and the same being read, and debate had thereon, it was motioned and carried that the further Consideration of the [474.] Report, be referred, till the Committee for Classing have made Report

The Reports of the 12 Committees appointed for Classing the Inhabitants in the several Wards was laid before the Town by the respective Committees, and the same having been read and Considered — whereupon Voted, that the Several Reports, be accepted, saving those of the Committees for Wards N^{o}. 8. 9. & 10 which were amended; and the Question being put Viz^{t}. Whether the said Reports as amended be accepted — Passed in the Affermative

The Report of the Committee of Five relative to the best method of Inlisting this Towns proportion of Men for the Continental Army again taken up and after considerable debate had thereon — it was

Voted, that this Report be Committed to a Committee now to be chosen, who are desired to take it into a new draught and Report to the Town as soon as may be also

Voted, that Stephen Higginson Esq^{r}.
Ellis Gray Esq^{r}.
M^{r}. Joseph Peirce
be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

The foregoing Committee having Reported, and the Same being read and considered, after some Amendments, &c agreeable to said Report, — it was

Voted, that Col^{o}. Josiah Waters
John Lucas Esq^{r}.
[475.] Leonard Jarvis Esq^{r}.
Major Thomas Melville
Cap^{t}. Alexander Hodgden
be a Superintending Committee for the Purpose of Inlisting Men for such Classes as may be delinquent, or such Classes as may desire the same; and that the said Committee shall have Power to

discharge any Class upon the Receipt of a Man who has passed Muster, or the payment of such Sums of Money as in the Estimation of said Committee shall be sufficient to procure a Man for said Class; and also to discharge any Person belonging to any Class who shall pay his proportionable part of such Sums as the said Committee shall determin to be sufficient to procure a Man for said Class.

Voted, that the said Committee shall have power to give such encouragement as they shall see necessary either of Monie or Clothes or both, by appointing a Rendezvous or Recruting Officer or any other way their Judgement shall direct

Voted, that said Committee open the Enlistment on Reciet of any Soldier from any Class shall deliver him over to the Superintendent of the County, and take his Receipt for the same — also

Voted, that this Committee be generously rewarded for their Servicies

Adjourned to Monday next being the 18th. Inst. 3. O.Clock in the Afternoon

[476.] Monday 3. Clock Afternoon met according to Adjournment

The Article in the Warrant Vizt. "To take into consideration the Request of the Town Schoolmasters, that the Town will determine the Sum they are to receive for their services from the first of September last to the First of March next" — was read, whereupon

Voted, that Ellis Gray Esqr.
Nathl. Appleton Esqr.
Mr. John Lowell

be a Committee to take this Matter into Consideration, and Report as soon as may be

The Article in the Warrant Vizt. — "To consider what is proper to be done for the accommodating of the Youth of the South part of the Town with a School House in the Room of one lately consumed by Fire" — was read, and considered whereupon

Voted that the Selectmen be directed to Apply to William Dennie for the hire of the Large Room in the Manufactory House lately purchased by him, for the accommodation of the Youth of the South part of the Town with a School House

The Article in the Warrant Vizt. "To consider what steps are necessary for procuring Blankets Shirts, Shoes, and Stockings, for the Army," — whereupon

Voted, that the Town Treasurer be directed to issue his Execution against the Collectors of Taxes **[477.]** before the 1t. of January next for all such Sums as remaine due of the Taxes committed to them to Collect, previous to the last Silver Money Tax — also

Voted, that a Committee be appointed to make enquirey of the Treasurer and Collectors of Taxes, what Sums are now due as outstanding Taxes, that are likely to be received — also

Voted, that Isaac Smith Esqr.
Samuel Hendley Esqr.
Mr. John Lowell

be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid to make Report as soon as may be

The Article in the Warrant Viz^t^. "To consider of the Request of Mess^rs^. Farrington and Davis, that Part of the Brick Wall of what is called the Fortification, may be taken down for their accomodation" was read — whereupon

Voted, that a Committee be appointed to consider the expediency of this proposal; first consulting his Excellency thereon, and to make Report as soon as may be — also

Voted, that the Selectmen be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

On a Motion Voted, that the Selectmen be desired to procure Blankets, Shirts, Shoes and Stockings for the Army, as soon as may be — also

Voted, that the Treasurer give his notes therefor, payable in Silver and Gold or Paper at the Current Exchange out of the next Tax if there is not a sufficiently **[478.]** Of the present for that purpose, said notes to carry an Interest

On a Motion Voted, that any Ward which is called upon for a greater number of Men than is Agreeable to theire proportion of the Publick Taxes, shall be allowed out of the Town Treasurey the cost of every Man so levied

Voted, that the Deliquent Classes or Individuals in a Class shall be Taxed fifty p cent over and above the charge of procuring their proportion of Men

Voted, that all Matters and Things which remaine unfinished at this Meeting be refferred over to the next Town Meeting then to be acted upon

Then the Meeting was dessolved

At a Meeting of the Freeholders, and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legaly Warned in publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Fryday the 22^d^. Day of December Anno Domini 1780. 3. O.Clock Afternoon

Warrant for calling the Meeting, read

The Town having determined to choose a Moderator by a hand Vote a Nomination was called for — and it Appeared that Thomas Dawes Esq^r^. — was chosen Moderator of the Meeting

[479.] Thomas Dawes Esq^r^. in the Chair

The Article in the Warrant. Viz^t^. "To consider and determine upon the best and most expeditious Measures for procuring this Towns proportion of Beef for the Continental Army as required by a Resolve of the General Court passed, the 4^th^. December Instant — was read — also the Resolve of the General Court. aforementioned — whereupon

Voted, that Caleb Davis Esq^r^.
Nathaniel Appleton Esq^r^.
M^r^. Thomas Walley
Stephen Higginson Esq^r^.
M^r^. Samuel Brick

Samuel Ruggles Esq^{r}.
M^{r}. Joseph Barrel

be a Committee to take this Matter into consideration, and Report what they apprehend is the best Measures to be taken as soon as may be

The Article in the Warrant Viz^{t}. To Grant such further Sums of Money for the purpose of carrying on the Wars" as may be Judged necessary — was read

The Committee appointed the 18 Instant "to make enquirey of the Town Treasurer and Collectors of Taxes, what Sums are due for outstanding Taxes, that are likely to be received" — having attended that service beg leave to Report

That they find due to the Several Collectors in this Town, about two hundred and forty Thousand Pounds, out of which Sum M^{r}. Thompson supposes thirty Thousand Pounds may be soon Collected by him — M^{r}. Sumner about ten Thousand Pounds — M^{r}. Torrey **[480.]** Twenty five Thousand Pounds, and M^{r}. Shaw Twenty Thousand Pounds — All which is Humbly Submitted

ISAAC SMITH p Order

On a Motion, Voted, that the Town Treasurer be impowered to imploy an Assistant at the Charge of the Town, to assist in taking out a true State of the Treasury to make Report at the Adjournment as soon as may be

Moved and Voted, that the Collectors be directed to exhibit to the Committee to enquire of them &c the amount of the Notes they have on hand, and what others they are to receive in the Several Wards

The Committee relative to Persons who are Taxed in other Towns as well as this Town Reported Verbally, with respect to Col^{o}. Sears Tax, whereby it appeared that Col^{o}. Sears had paid his Taxes both for his Real Estate and Faculty to the Town of Roxbury

Adjourned to the 26th. of December 3. O.Clock — Afternoon

Tuesday the 26th of December 3. O.Clock — Afternoon — met according to Adjournment

Col^{o}. Daws in the Chair

The Committee relative to Beef, being called upon to Report, they Acquainted the Town, that they were not able to Report, at this Meeting — whereupon the Town came into the following Vote — Viz^{t}.

[481.] Whereas there is still a difficulty in the Monies Voted to be raised for paying this Towns proportion of Beef for the Continental Army — therefore

Voted that the Collectors be enjoined to Collect the first Beef Tax immediately, and to pay the same into the Treasurery, for the sole purpose for procuring said Beef, also

Voted, that Deacon John Simkins
M^{r}. Isaac Peirce
M^{r}. James Bridgham

be a Committee to waite upon the several Collectors with a Copy of this Vote, and that they Press upon them, the necessity of their immediately proceeding in this business

Moved and Voted, that the Assessors be directed to Attend at the Adjournment of this Meeting

Caleb Dayis Esqr. one of the Committee relative to Beef having for Reasons which he offered, been excused, from serving further on that Committee

Samuel Barret Esqr.

was appointed in his room —

Samuel Barrett Esqr. being excused from serving on the Committee aforesaid —

Colo. Tudor

was appointed in his room—

On a Motion Voted, that the Town Clerk cause the several Committees to be Notified of this intended Adjournment of this Meeting

[**482.**] Adjourned to Fryday next 3. O'Clock Afternoon

Fryday December 29th. 3. O'Clock P: M: Met according to Adjournment

Colo. Dawes, the Moderator being absent and having acquainted the Town that he was not able to attend

Nathaniel Appleton Esqr.

was chosen Moderator

The Committee Appointed to consider and Report what steps are necessary to be taken by the Town, to enable them to comply with a Requisition of the General Court of the 4th. Instant, for supplying the Army with Beef — Reported — and in conformity to said Report, the following Votes were passed by the Town — Vizt.

Whereas it is of the utmost importance that the Town should forthwith comply with the Requisition of the General Court of the 4th. Instant for procuring Beef for the Army and whereas the Money cannot be Collected by Taxes in Season to make the necessary purchases — therefore

Voted, that the Town Treasurer be and he is hereby impowered and directed to borrow a Sum not exceeding Nine thousand Pounds lawful Money of the New Emission; and that Gentelmen of Property may be induced more redily and Speedily to advance [**483.**] their Monies, and as an allowance for any inconvenience the Person lending may sustain, by hastily raising the same

Voted, "that the Treasurer be and he hereby is directed to give notes upon Interest payable in three Months, with an allowance of ten per Cent or the Sum lent to be included in the Note, to any Person who shall lend the same before the First Day of February 1781. — Said Money to be appropriated soleey for the purpose of complying with the requisition of the General Court aforesaid, and to prevent any injustice being done, either to the Town or the lender

Voted, that the Notes given by the Town Treasurer, shall be in the form following — Vizt.

Boston the 1781

In pursuance of a vote of the Town Passed the 29th. December 1780 — Borrowed and Received of —— the Sum of —— of the New Emission, to enable the Town to comply with a Requisition of the General Court of the Fourth of December last to procure Beef for the Army, which Sum I Promise in behalf of Myself and Successors in the Office of Treasurer to repay said —— or Bearer in three Months from the above date, with Lawfull Interest for the same till paid to be made equal in value to the Sum received, in the Judgement of the Committee appointed by the Town to determine the same also

Voted, that John Scollay Esqr.
Ezekiel Price Esqr.
Mr. Edward Payne
be a Committee for the Purpose aforesaid

[**484.**] And whereas it is of the utmost importance both for the Credit of the Town, and for the Security and Satisfaction of the Lender, that the Treasurer should be enabled punctually to discharge said notes, at the time affixed for payment

Voted, that the Sum of Nine Thousand pounds lawfull Money of the New Emission be immediately Assessed on the Polls and Estates of the Inhabitants of this Town, which Sum the Assessors are hereby directed to Add to the Tax they are now making

And whereas it is absolutely necessary that the Money should be immediately Collected, to prevent the Town being Subjected to a large fine, in case of failure, and that the business may be expidited as much as possible

Voted, that Stephen Higginson Esqr.
Mr. Daniel Bell
Mr. Samuel Brick
Mr. John Coffin Jones
Mr. Edward Payne
Mr. Stephen Bruce
Mr. Herman Brimmer
be a Committee to apply to the Inhabitants for an immediate Loan of Money to the Town for the purposes and on the Conditions aforesaid also

Voted, that Capt. Amasa Davis
Mr. Ebenezer Dorr
Majr. John May
[**485.**] be a Committee to receive the Monies of the Town Treasurer or such part of it as shall be necessary to enable the Town to comply with the requisition aforesaid, and pay the Same to the Committee appointed by the General Court to procure supplys for the Army, or to their Order, taking duplicate Receipts therefor, agreeable to the directions given in said Resolve of the General Court — also

Voted, that the Collectors of Taxes be and they hereby are directed to receive the Notes given by the Treasurer for the above purpose in payment for the Taxes levied to redeem said Notes, allowing the Interest that may be due thereon, and that the Treasurer be and he hereby is directed to receive them of the Collectors accordingly in payment for said Tax

The Committee relative to Schoolmasters Reported, — That their Allowances be drawn for by the Selectmen at the same rate for the last Six Months, as the preceeding, and that the Committee have leave to set again and Report at next March Meeting

On a Motion Voted, that all Matters unfinished at this Town Meeting be referred to the next General Town Meeting

Moved and Voted, that the Gentelmen the Selectmen be desired to apply to the General Court for an explanation of the Act relative to Taxes, there being Persons who are Taxed for their Faculty in Towns where they reside but do no business

[**486.**] Moved that this Meeting be Adjourned to Tuesday next being the Ninth Day of January next. 3. O'Clock Afternoon

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

Tuesday the Ninth Day of January 1781 — 3. O'Clock Afternoon — Met According to Adjournment

The Moderators of this Meeting not being able to give their attendance at this Adjournment it was moved and Voted, that the Town proceed to the choice of a Moderator Pro. Tem^o^.

Harbottle Dorr Esq^r^.

was accordingly chosen Moderator of this Meeting Pro. Tem^o^. and took his Seat

The Committee appointed to procure Subscriptions for the purchase of Beef for the Army were called upon to make Report, but the Town being acquainted, that said Committee were not able to make Report at this Meeting — it was moved, and

Voted, that this Meeting be now dissolved

And the Meeting was accordingly dissolved

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned, in Publick [**487.**] Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuiel Hall on Monday the 22 Day of January Anno Domini 1781

Warrant for calling the Meeting read

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes, for a Moderator, and the same having been brought in and counted, it appeared that

Stephen Higginson Esq^r^.

was chosen Moderator, unanimously

The Committee appointed to procure Subscriptions for the procuring Beef for the Army, Reported, whereby it appeared that Three Persons only had as yet Subscribed, for the Purpose aforesaid

The Article in the Warrant Viz^t^. — "To consider and determine upon Measures for the immediate obtaining the Towns proportion of Beef for the Continental Army to avoid the penalty which will otherwise be incurred" — was read — and after debate had thereon, it was moved and

Voted, that the Report of the Committee be Recommitted, and that the Gentelmen of the Committee be desired to Apply to the several Inhabitants of the Town in order to procure such Sums as they are disposed to Lend, the Same to be deducted out of their respective Taxes for Beef

Voted, that Cap. William Mackay
Capt. Nathaniel Fellows
be added to the Committee on Subscriptions

[488.] The Article in the Warrant Vizt. "To Grant such Sums of Money as may be Judged necessary" — was read and the further consideration thereof referred

The Article in the Warrant — Vizt. "To consider what is proper to be done to secure the Town from Fires, to which it is greatly exposed at the present season by the want of suitable Chimney Sweepers under proper Regulations was read — whereupon

Voted, that the Selectmen be and they hereby are Authorised and impowered to appoint One or more Suitable Persons for Sweeping Chimneys upon such terms and under Such regulations, as they shall Judge most for the Interest of the Town and Safety of the Inhabitants, the charge of sweeping to be defryed by those who shall employ them

The Committee appointed for Inlisting this Towns proportion of Men for the Continental Army Reported Verbally — and it Appeared to be the sense of the Town, that the Committee proceed in that business

Then the Meeting was dessolved

[489.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned, in Publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 5th. Day of March Anno Domini 1781

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read
John Brown Esqr.
was chosen Moderator of this Meeting unanimously

The Committee appointed by the Town the 6th. of March Last to apply to a proper Gentelman to deliver an Oration the 5th. of March Inst. to perpetuate the Memory of the horred Massacre perpetrated on the Evening of the 5th March 1770 — by a Party of Soldiers under the Command of Capt. Thomas Preston of the 29th. Regiment — Reported

That having met *several times* for the purposes mentioned in the Town Vote, that they had unanimously made choice of Mr. Thomas Daws Junr. to deliver an Oration on the 5th. of March Instant who had accordingly accepted of that Service

The foregoing Report having been made, the Question was put — Whether the same shall be accepted — Passed in the Affermative

Upon a Motion — the Town took into consideration, what would be the best time to have the Oration pronounced, as also what place would be most suitable for the purpose — whereupon

[490.] Voted, that the Oration be delivered at the Old Brick Meeting House, the Hall not being capatious enough to receive the Inhabitants that attended upon the occasion

Voted that Eben^{r}. Hancock Esq^{r}.
Mr. Jonath^{n}. Mason Ju^{r}.
M^{r}. Samuel Ruggles Esq^{r}.
be a Committee to wait upon M^{r}. Thomas Dawes and acquaint him that it is the desire of the Town, that the Oration may be delivered at the Old Brick meeting House 12. O:Clock this Day — as also to ask leave of the Committee of said Church for the use of that Building

On a Motion — Voted, that the Selectmen be directed to Order the Several Bells in the Town to be tolled from one quarter of an Hour after 9. O.Clock this Evening untill 10. O.Clock

Adjourned to the Old Brick Meeting House 12. O.Clock

The Town met at the Old Brick Meeting House 12 O.Clock according to Adjournment

The Committee appointed to wait upon M^{r}. Thomas Daws Ju^{r}. to acquaint him with the Votes, of the Town, respecting the time and Place for the delivery of an Oration — Reported

That said Gentelman was ready to Comply with the Order of the Town

[491.] An Oration, to commemorate the horred Massacre of the Fifth of March 1770 — and to impress upon the Minds of the Citizens, the ruinous tendency of Standing Armies being placed in Free and Populous Cities &c. was delivered by M^{r}. Thomas Daws Jun^{r}. to a large and crowded Assembly, and received by them with great Applause

On a Motion made Voted, that
John Brown Esq^{r}.
John Scollay Esq^{r}.
M^{r}. Nathan Frazier
M^{r}. Barret
Ezekiel Price Esq^{r}.
Ebenezer Hancock Esq^{r}.
M^{r}. Tuttle Hubbard
be and hereby are appointed a Committee to wait upon M^{r}. Thomas Daws Jun^{r}. and in the name of the Town to thank him for the Spirited and elegant Oration delivered by him at their request, in commemoration of the horred Massacre perpetrated on the Evening of the 5 of March 1770, by a Party of Soldiers, of the 29th. Regiment under the Command of Cap^{t}. Thomas Preston, and to request of him a Copy thereof, for the Press sent

On a Motion made, Voted, that
John Brown Esq^{r}. Moderator
Hon^{ble}. Samuel Adams Esq^{r}.
Harbottle Dorr Esq^{r}.
M^{r}. Thomas Daws Ju^{r}.
M^{r}. Jonathan Mason Ju^{r}.
Ellis Gray Esq^{r}.
[492.] John Lowell Esq^{r}.
be and hereby are appointed a Committee to Apply to a proper Gentelman to deliver an Oration on the 5th. of March next, to perpetuate the Memory of the horred Massacre perpetrated on the

Evening of the 5th. of March 1770, by a Party of Soldiers of the 29th. Regiment, under the Command of Cap^{t}. Thomas Preston; and to impress upon our Minds the runious tendincy of Standing Armies being placed in Free and Populas Cities in a time of Peace; and the necessity of such noble Exertions in all future times, as the Inhabitants of the Town then made, whereby the Designs of the Conspirators against the publick peace, may be still frustrated — sent

A Petition of M^{r}. Robert Patterson setting forth "that he received a Wound in his right Arm the 5 March 1770 by a Shot from Prestons Party whereby he has entirely lost the use of it; and that Since the Death of M^{r}. Monk he is the only one of the unhappy number then badly wounded. that survives," and therefore praying the charity of the Town — was read — Whereupon

Voted, that a Collection be made at the close of this Meeting for the said unhappy Sufferer; and Boxes were placed at each Door to receive the Collections

The Collection made for the said M^{r}. Patterson. Amounted to the Sum of ——

Then the Meeting was dessolved

[**493.**] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, duly qualified and legally warned, in Publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuiel Hall on Monday the 12th. Day of March Anno Domini 1781 — 9. OClock Forenoon

Prayer was made by the Rev^{d}. M^{r}. Eckley

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read

Sundry Laws enjoined to be read at this Meeting, were accordingly — read

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for a Moderator of this Meeting, and the same being brought in and Sorted it appeared, that

John Brown Esq^{r}.

was chosen Moderator

M^{r}. William Cooper was chosen Town Clerk for the year ensuing, and took the Oath of Office for the faithfull discharge of his Duty, which Oath was administred by M^{r}. Justice Price

The Town having determined by a Vote to choose Seven Selectmen; the Inhabitants, were then directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for that Number, and the same being brought in and Sorted, it appeared that the following Gentelmen Viz^{t}.

[**494.**] John Scollay Esq^{r}.
Cap^{t}. Gustavus Fellows
Harbottle Dorr Esq^{r}.
M^{r}. Nathan Frazier
Ezekiel Price Esq^{r}.
Cap^{t}. William Mackay
M^{r}. Tuttle Hubbard

were chosen Selectmen for the Year ensuing

The Inhabitants brought in their Votes for Nine Persons as a Committee of Correspondence Inspection and Safety, and upon sorting them it appeared that

Nathaniel Barber Esq^r.
Edward Proctor Esq^r.
Cap^t. John Pulling
Ebenezer Hancock Esq^r
Cap^t. Isaac Phillips
Samuel Ruggles Esq^r.
Maj^r. Thomas Melville
Jonathan Mason Ju^r.
M^r. Christopher Clark

were chose a Committee of Correspondence &c for the year ensuing

The Inhabitants brought in their Votes for twelve Overseers of the Poor, and upon sorting them it appeared that

The Hon^ble. William Phillips Esq^r.
Isaac Smith Esq^r.
M^r. Jonathan Mason
Cap^t. Samuel Partridge
M^r. Samuel Whitwell
[495.] M^r. John White
Edward Proctor Esq^r.
William Powell Esq^r.
M^r. Jonathan Sweetser Ju^r.
Samuel Barret Esq^r.
M^r. Nicholas Bowes
Joseph Webb Esq^r.

were chosen Overseers of the Poor for the Year ensuing

The Inhabitants brought in their Votes for twelve Wardens, and upon sorting them it appeared, that

Mess^rs. Robert Davis
Stephen Gore
Major Thomas Bumstead
John Champney
Samuel Wallis
Habijah Savage
John Wait
Nathaniel Barret
Edward Wild
Samuel Eliot Jun^r.
Edward Edes
Jacob Holland

were chosen Wardens for the Year ensuing

The Inhabitants brought in their Votes for Sixteen Fire Wards, and upon sorting them it appeared, that

John Scollay Esq^r.
William Cooper
Francis Shaw Esq^r.
Edward Procter Esq^r.
[496.] Cap^t. John Pulling
Caleb Davis Esq^r.

Ebenezer Hancock Esq^{r}.
M^{r}. Thomas Tileston
Andrew Symms Esq^{r}.
Cap^{t}. Gustavus Fellows
Joseph Webb Esq^{r}.
Cap^{t}. John Ballard
M^{r}. John Winthrop
M^{r}. John Lowell
Maj^{r}. Thomas Melville
Jabez Hatch Esq^{r}.
were chose Fire Wards for the Year ensuing

On a Motion — Voted, that the Choice of a County Treasurer and a County Register, be Assigned to 4. O.Clock Afternoon

The Inhabitants brought in their Votes for a Town Treasurer and upon sorting them it appeared that David Jeffries was chosen, Town Treasurer for the Year ensuing, unanimously

On a Motion, Voted, that the Question Whether Collectors of Taxes shall be chosen Seperate from Constables — be considered at ½ past 4. OClock in the Afternoon

Voted, that the Constables of the Town be desired to enform the Town at ½ past 4 OClock Afternoon, what they apprehend to be the Towns proportion of Fines, which are due from the several Justices

[497.] On a Motion —Voted, that the Question Whether Collectors of Taxes shall be chosen seperate from Constables — be considered at /

Moved and Voted that the choice of Assessors be postponed to 5.O.Clock —Afternoon —

Adjourned to 3. O.Clock in the Afternoon —

3 O'Clock. P: M: Met according to Adjournm^{t}.
Maj^{r}. Edward Carnes
was chosen a Surveyer of Hemp for the Year ensuing

Mess^{rs}. Benjamin Page
John Stutson
Moses May
John Lambert
Joseph Ballard
Uriah Norcross
Benjamin White
Joseph Butler
Samuel Fenno
Henry Blaisdel
John Champney
Thomas Bayley
Edward Ranger
John Bell
Abraham Howard
Samuel Dellaway
Jonathan Stoddard
Thomas Uran
were chose Surveyers of Boards for the year ensuing

Mess^{rs}. William Clough
Joseph Daniels
Samuel Dyer
[498.] Nathaniel Wales
William Brown
were chose Fence Viewers for the Year ensuing
Mess^{rs}. Samuel Bangs
Nathan Green
Samuel Curtis
Isaac Bird
were chose Sealers of Leather for the ensuing Year
M^r. Adam Colson
was chosen an Informer of Deer for the Year ensuing
Mess^{rs}. David Spear
Manassah Masters
Joseph Spear
John Williston
Joshua Pico
Samuel Heyley
William Raynard
John Owen
Samuel Avis
Caleb Hayden
Israel Cook
were chose Cullers of Staves for the Year ensuing
Mess^{rs}. George Hamlin
Samuel Curtis
Joseph Snelling
were chose Hogreeves for the ensuing Year—
Mess^{rs}. George Hamlin
Isaac Tuckerman
were chose Haywards for the ensuing Year

[499.]

	Ward.
Mess^{rs}. Samuel Clough	N^o. 1
John Lambert	2
James Sherman	3
John Cogswell	4
John Dinsdell	5
John Welch	6
William Peake	7
David Burrel	8
Elisha Sigorney	9
Andrew Oliver	10
William Fallass	11
Charles Simpson	12

were chose Scavingers for the ensuing Year

Votes, for a County Treasurer, brought in and being sealed up in Town Meeting were delivered to M^r. Constable Colson to be by him returned to the Court of General Sessions of the Peace, at their next Meeting

Votes, for a County Register, brought in and being sealed up in Town Meeting were delivered to M^r. Constable Colson, to be by him returned to the Court of General Sessions of the Peace at their next Meeting

On a Motion Voted, that the Town Treasurer be and he hereby is impowered and directed to allow the Overseers of the Poor Interest as, usual on all Sums that have or may be Advanced by them, for the Support of the Almshouse

Moved, that a Committee be appointed to consider the present Condition of the Almshouse — to enquire what part of the Monies appropriated for the [**500.**] Support of the Almshouse has been received, and to devise the best means, for a timely and regular supply, and to Report at the Adjournment — the Question being accordingly put — Passed in the Affermative

Voted, that Ellis Gray Esq^{r}.
Mr. Joseph Barrel
Mr. Joseph Russel
be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

This being the time Assigned for taking up the Question — Viz^{t}. Whether Collectors shall be chosen seperate from Constables — after debate had thereon — It was moved and carried that the further consideration of this matter subside for the present

On a Motion of M^{r}. Grays, Voted, that a Committee of Ways and Means be appointed, who shall take into consideration the State of the Towns Finances, the present mode of Assessing and Collecting their Taxes, and to Report as soon as may be such alterations as they Judge expedient

Voted, that Ellis Gray Esq^{r}.
John Lowell Esq^{r}
John Brown Esq^{r}.
M^{r}. Leonard Jarvis
Stephen Higginson Esq^{r}.
M^{r}. Edward Payne
Nathaniel Barret
be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

On a Motion, the Question was put Viz^{t}. Whether the present mode of Assessing be agreeable —[**501.**] passed in the Negative — also on a Motion — the Question was put. Viz^{t}. Whether the present mode of Collecting the Taxes, Assessed, be Agreeable — Passed in the Negative

Cap^{t}. Fellows one of the Selectmen chosen at this Meeting having in Writing prayed that he might be excused from serving in that Office, the Present year it was moved and carried, that the consideration of this request be referred to the Adjournment

This being the time Assigned for making enquirey of the Constables, with respect to the Towns proportion of Fines which the Justices received and are accountable for — this matter was taken up — whereupon a Motion, was made, and carried "that a Committee be now appointed, to make enquirey what Monies may be due to the Town from the Justices, as the Towns proportion of Fines and Forfitures — also

Voted, that M^{r}. Joseph Barrel
D^{r}. Charles Jarvis
M^{r}. Joseph Russell
be a Committee for said purpose to Report as soon as may be

It was moved, that this Meeting be Adjourned to to Morrow Morning 10. O'Clock

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

Tuesday March 13th. 10. O'Clock Before noon — Met according to Adjournment

[**502.**] Information having been been given to this Meeting that two Persons were got to Town from Philadelphia with large quantities of Paper Moneys which they had offered to exchange for Silver at upwards of one hundred for one, when the common exchange is but Seventy five for one — whereupon it was moved and Voted,

That the Committee of Correspondence Inspection and Safety for the Town of Boston be directed to send for those Persons, and have them under examination, in order to their being dealt with as the Safety of this and the other United States require

A Letter from the Committee of the Town of Stoughton to the Selectmen of Boston relative to meeting in a proposed Convention, with respect to the Tender Act so called, lately repealed was laid before the Town by the Selectmen

The following Persons were chose Clerks of the Market for the Year ensuing — Vizt.

Messrs: Joseph Roby
Thomas Clark
James Morrel
Nathaniel Fosdick
Thomas Newell
James Carrew
William Smith
William Gooch
Pepperal Tyler
Joseph Winthrop
[**503.**] Nathan Bond
Thomas Coverly Vernon

Voted, that Ellis Gray Esqr.
Honble. Caleb Davis Esqr.
Ebenezer Storer Esqr.
Mr. Herman Brimmer
Mr. Joseph Barrel

be and hereby are appointed a Committee to Audit the Accompts of David Jeffries Esqr. Treasurer and also the Accompts of the Overseers of the Poor; and the said Committee are impowered when they shall Audit said Accounts to allow such of the Overseers as have Advanced Monies for the relief of the Poor, Interest on all such Sums from the time so Advanced, untill they shall have Audited said Accounts; and they are also desired to Report from Time to time a State of the Treasurey respecting its debts and credits, and on any Matters they may think proper

And the Committee are also directed to examine the Draughts of the Selectmen

Mr. Wallis chosen one of the Wardens for the Year ensuing having desired the Town to excuse him from serving in that Office — he was accordingly excused

On a Motion made, it was Voted that the further consideration of the Excuses made for not serving as Wardens be referred to the Adjournment

The Selectmen
were chose Surveyers of High Ways for the Year ensuing

[504.] Jonathan Williams Esqr.
Mr. John Sweetser Junr.
Mr. John White
were chose Purchasers of Grain for the Year ensuing, and they are desired and impowered to give all needfull directions to the Keeper of the Granary respecting the quantity of Grain to be sold, and affixing the prices thereof from time to time as occasion shall require; and the said Committee are directed to cause all the Grain belonging to the Town to be ground at the new Mills near the Mill Bridge

John Tudor Esqr.
John Lucas Esqr.
Mr. John White
Mr. James Thwing
Mr. John Sweetser
were chose Surveyers of Wheat for the Year ensuing

Messrs. Thomas Green
Benjamin Thompson
were chose Assay Masters for the Year ensuing

Voted, that the consideration of Schoolmasters Salaries and Grants, be referred over to May Meeting

The Article in the Warrant Vizt. What Lands shall be improved by the Town the present Year for the raising of Vegitables — was read, whereupon

Voted, John Lucas Esqr.
Capt. Job Prince. Senr.
Mr. John Lowell
[505.] be a Committee to take this Article into consideration, and Report at the Adjournment of this Meeting

It was moved that this Meeting be Adjourned to Tuesday next. the 20th of March Inst. 9. OClock Before Noon

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

Tuesday March 20th. 9. OClock Forenoon — Met according to Adjournment

Messrs. John Bulfinch
Clement Collins Junr.
were chose Surveyers of Boards for the year ensuing

The Address of the General Assembly of this Commonwealth to the Inhabitants of the Same relative to Money Matters &c. was distinctly read in this Meeting

The Article in the Warrant — Vizt. To consider what is necessary to be done for the accommodation of the Youth of the South part of the Town with a Schoolhouse in the room of one consumed by Fire — was read and considered — whereupon, it was Voted, that the Selectmen be directed and impowered to apply to the General Assembly of this Commonwealth at their next Sessions, for the use of a Room in the Manufactory House so called, for the accomodation of the Youth of the South part of the Town with a School in the room of one lately consumed by Fire

The Comittee appointed by the Town to [**506.**] consider of the present method of Assessing and Collecting Taxes &c have attended that Service and Report that upon enquiring they find the Expence of Assessing and Collecting the State, County and Town Taxes for the last Year was nearly equal to all the Other Town Charges put together — that in order to ease the Inhabitants who are necessarily burthened with heavy Taxes to carry on the War they propose a new mode comprised in the following Votes for the consideration of the Town

Voted that there be two discreat men in each Military ward chosen to Assess, such State County and Town Taxes as may be ordered the ensuing Year, on the Inhabitants that live in those Wards respectively and one other Person in each Ward to Collect the Same

Voted, that neither the Assessors nor Collectors shall receive any pay for their Servicies save the thanks and Gratitude of their fellow Citizens

Voted, that in all cases where the Assessors for want of Valuations are Oblidged to Doom, they shall have a right to advise with those whom they think Proper, as to the Circumstances of the Persons to be doomed

Voted, That when the Assessors have compleated the Estimations for their Respective Wards, it shall be their duty to convene and go over the several Estimations in order to rectify any Errors that may appear in them and to see that they have [**507.**] all adopted the same Standard in forming their Estimates — and having done this to see how much in the pound, the Tax to be Assessed turns out upon the whole Capital of the Town, and by that Rule to Assess the Inhabitants in their Respective Wards

Voted, That the Books of the Assessors shall be open to the Inspection of any Person who wants to see the amount of Anothers Tax or the principales on which the Assesment is founded

Voted, that as soon as the Assessors for any Ward have Compleated their Assesment they shall send Tax Bills printed in the usual Form to the Inhabitants of that Ward, and the Collectors shall within days after the delivery of said Tax Bills, deliver to the Constables, an attested List of all those Persons, who have not paid their Taxes or any Part thereof — and it shall be the duty of the said Constables, or Collectors, immediately to Collect the same by Distraint or otherwise as may be necessary, for which purpose they shall have a Warrant from the Assessors, and be allowed a premium of 5 p Cent on all Sums which they shall so collect — And whereas great Advantages, will arise to the Publick from the Taxes being early and punctually paid in

Voted, That the Collectors be and they hereby are directed and impowered to deduct 5 p Cent from the Amount of the Tax Bills of all those Persons who shall within Forty Days after the Date of the same pay in their Taxes to the Constables

[508.] And the Committee prayed leave to Report further

The foregoing Report having been read after some debate, it was Voted, that said Report be taken up by paragraphs

The Paragraph's of said Report having been distinctly read and considered the Five First of the same were Accepted

Adjourned to 3 O.Clock in the Afternoon

3 O.Clock P: M: met according to Adjournment

Mess^rs^. John Gammel — sworn
James Rogers

were chose Surveyors of Boards, for the Year ensuing

The Article in the Warrant Viz^t^. "To consider the request of Nathan Frazier, that the Monies he has Advanced for the Town, for severall years past may be repaid him" — was read, whereupon

Voted, that M^r^. Joseph Russell
Ezekiel Price
Stephen Higginson Esq^r^.

be a Committee to consider this request and Report the Sum that may be due to him at the Adjournment

The Report of the Committee on Ways and Means again taken up, and after considerable debate had thereon it was moved and carried that the Report be recommitted at large, notwithstanding five paragraphs thereof have been Accepted — the Committee to Report at the Adjournment of this Meeting

[509.] On a Motion. Voted, that
Ezekiel Price Esq^r^.
Col^o^. Tudor

be added to said Committee

On a Motion, Voted, that a Commitee be now appointed to Join the Assessors in preparing an Abstract that may serve for taking the Valuation in this Town, to lay before the General Court

Voted, that Col^o^. Dawes
M^r^. Joseph Barrel
Stephen Higginson Esq^r^.
M^r^. Leonard Jarvis
Isaac Smith Esq^r^.

be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid — sent

The Committee relative to the Fees due from some Justices, to this Town as its part of Fines by them received — Reported verbally, whereupon it was moved and Voted, that The Town Treasurer be directed to wait upon the several Justices and acquaint them that it is the expectation of the Town that they immediatley settle with him for the Towns proportion of Fines received by them

Nathaniel Appleton Esq^r^.

Added to the Committee on Ways and Means in the room of M^r^. Gray, who is prevented by Sickness from attending the Committee

The Committee to consider the expediency of improving Land in this Town for the raising Vegitables the present Year. — Reported, that in their **[510.]** Opinion; it would be for the Advantage of the Town to improve the Land at West Boston for the raising Vegitables

Adjourned to Monday next being the 22 Day of March Instant, 9. O'Clock Forenoon --

Monday the 26. Day of March 9. O.Clock Forenoon — Met according to Adjournment

Voted, that

Cap^{t}. Job Prince Sen^{r}.
M^{r}. Isaac Pierce
M^{r} Rouse
M^{r}. Jeremiah Belknap

be a Committee to improve the Land, at West Boston for the raising of Vegitables, which were improved for that Purpose the last year, and so much more land as can be obtained on the same conditions with last as the Committee may Judge to be for the Interest and benefit of the Town

The Article in the Warrant. Viz^{t}. "To consider whether the Town will Lease or make sale of any part of their Lands on the Neck agreeable to the request of several of the Inhabitants" — whereupon it was moved and Voted, that the consideration of this Article be referred to 4. O.Clock. Afternoon

On a Motion, Voted, the consideration of Cap^{t}. Bradfords Petition come on, immediately after the consideration of the foregoing Article

[511.] The Article in the Warrant Viz^{t}. "To consider whether the Town will allow the same premium to those who have advanced Monies for the Purchase of Cloathing for the Army as they have to such as have done it for the procuring of Beef" — was read and considered whereupon

Voted, that the same Premium of ten per Cent be allowed those Persons who have advanced Monies for the Town for the procuring Cloathing for the Continental Army as was allowed those who lent their Monies for the procuring Beef

The Town Treasurer, Reported to the Town that Agreeable to their directions he had applied to the Justices for a settlement of the Towns part of the Fines which they had received — that M^{r}. Justice Gardner haid paid Eight hundred Dollars on Account of said, Fines and that when their Accounts against the Town were allowed by the Selectmen, they would settle with him for the Fines they had received — Whereupon it was moved and Voted, that the Town Treasurer should again apply to the Justices, and demand a particular account of the Towns part of the Fines by them received

The Committee appointed to make full enquirey into the Affairs of the Town respecting debts and Credits have attended that service and according to information of the Town Treasurer find the Town indebted to sundry Persons as p List herewith rendered

from the year 1762 — to 1776 including - - -	8083	5	$0\frac{3}{4}$
Ballances due in - - - 1777 - - - - -	2980	–	10
ditto in - - - - - - 1778 - - - -	3678	7	10
[512.] Ballance due in 1779 - - - - -	13299	19	3
Ballance due to May 20th. 1780 - - - - -	33335	11	3
the whole exclusive of Interest Amounting to	£61,377.	4.	$2\frac{3}{4}$

The Committee have also received from the Treasurer a List of Debts due from sundry Persons to the Town which together with a List of expenditures, as also a List of Rents from the Selectmen are herewith respectfully Submitted

Josiah Waters Jun^{r}. p order

The foregoing Report having been read together with the Lists referred to in the Report, it was moved and Voted, that a Committee to assist and advise the Town Treasurer in settling Accompts and Collecting the debts due to the Town as by a List on file, and that the Treasurer be and hereby is impowered to hire a suitable Person as a Clerk for so long a time as he and the Committee may Judge to be necessary also

Voted, that Col^{o}. Waters
M^{r}. Joseph Russell
be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

The Committee relative to ways and Means, Reported, whereupon it was moved and Voted, that the Report be taken up at 3. O.'Clock Afternoon

Adjourned to 3. O'Clock in the Afternoon

3 O'Clock, Afternoon — Met according to Adjournment

[513.] The Report of the Committee relative to Ways and Means, again taken up at large, and after considerable debate had thereon, it was moved and carried, that the same be further considered paragraph by paragraph

The foregoing Report having been considered by paragraphs and amended by the Town, the same was reduced to the following Votes, which were passed by a Majority of the Inhabitants. Viz^{t}.

Voted, that there be twenty four discreat Men, two out of each Military Ward, chosen as Assessors the ensuing Year to levy and Assess upon the Polls and Estates of the Inhabitants of the Town and other Persons, doing business therein all such Commonwealth County and Town Taxes as may be ordered, said Assessors to be under oath as the Law directs

Voted, that it is the undoubted right of every Inhabitant to inspect the Books of the Assessors, and be informed of the principles upon which any Assessments are made, and the Assessors are directed to conform accordingly

Voted, that the Assessors aforesaid shall be entitled to no pecuniary reward for the services aforesaid

Voted, that in all cases where the Assessors for want of Valuations are oblidged to doom, they shall have a right to advise with those whom they think proper as to the circumstances of the Persons to be so doomed

[514.] Voted, that where the Assessors have compleated the estimations for their respective Wards, it shall be their duty to convene and go over the several estimations in order to rectify any Errors that may happen in them, and to see that they have all adopted the same standard in forming their Estimates, and having done this to see how much in the pound the Tax to be Assessed turns out, upon the whole Capital of the Town, and by that rule to Assess the Inhabitants in their respective Wards

Several of the foregoing Votes or parts of the Report of the Committee reconsidered

Voted, that the Assessors be and hereby are impowered and directed to set for such Abatement of Taxes, as they shall Judge reasonable, ten days next following the date and delivery of the Tax Bills, Lords Days excepted, and no longer, saving that they be allowed to set two Days the last Week in February for the Abatement of the Taxes of such Persons as had not an oppertunity of applying in the above limitted time, by reason of their being out of the Commonwealth, or any other unavoidable hindrance; at which time they are also allowed and impowered to abate the Taxes of such Persons as may have died Insolvent before the said time

Adjourned to Thursday next 10. O'Clock Before Noon

Thursday the 29th. of March 10. O'Clock P: M: Met according to Adjournment

[515.] On a Motion made — the Question was put Vizt. — Whether Collectors of Taxes shall be chose seperate from Constables — Passed in the Affermative

The Petition of Capt. John Bradford for an abatement of his Taxes, was read, and considered, whereupon it was moved and carried, that the said Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition

The Article in the Warrant Vizt. — To consider whether the Town will Lease or make Sale of any part of their Land on the Neck, Agreeable to the request of several of the Inhabitants." — was again read, and after some debate had thereon — It was moved and Seconded, that a Committee be now appointed to take this matter into further consideration; and to Report their Opinion to the Town as soon as may be — And the Question being accordingly put — Passed in the Affermative

It was moved and passed that this Committee consist of Nine Persons

Voted that Deacon Sharp
Harbottle Dorr Esqr.
Colo. Andrew Symms
Thomas Dawes Esqr.
Capt. John Ballard
John Lucas Esqr.
Mr. Thomas Parker
Colo. Barber
William Story Esqr.

be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid to Report to the Town as soon as may be

Adjourned to Fryday next 10. O'Clock Beforenoon

[516.] Fryday March 30th. 10 O.'Clock Forenoon — Met according to Adjournment

John Brown Esqr. the Moderator of this Meeting acquainted the Town that his health would not allow him to attend his duty this Day as Moderator

The Inhabitants were therefore directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for a Moderator of the Meeting Pro. Tem^{o}. — And the Votes being accordingly brought in and sorted, it appeared that

John Tudor Esq^{r}.

was chosen Moderator Pro. Tem^{o}.

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for four Wardens.

The Bells ringing for Fire, before the Votes were brought in, a Motion was made that the Meeting be Adjourned to 3. O.Clock Afternoon — and the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

3 O'Clock Afternoon, Met according to Adjournment

The Inhabitants were again directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for four Wardens; and the same having been brought in and sorted it appeared, that

Mess^{rs}.	Elisha Sigorney	excused
	Joseph Prince	
	Israiel Loring	
	G. W. Speakman	excused

were chosen Wardens for the ensuing Year

[517.] It was moved and Voted, that when this Meeting is Adjourned; it shall be to toMorrow. 9. OClock Forenoon — also

Voted, that the Cryer be directed to inform the Inhabitants of the Adjournment and that he be furnished by the Town Clerk with a written Notification — also that the several Sextons be directed to ring the Bells of the Several Churches at the intended Adjournment

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for twelve Constables, and the same being brought in and sorted, it appeared that

Mess^{rs}.	Edward Tuckerman	excused
	Jonathan Amory	d^{o}.
	John Read	d^{o}.
	Benjamin Clark	d^{o}.
	Joseph Barrel	d^{o}.
	John Welch	d^{o}.
	William Clark	d^{o}.
	Mungo Mackay	d^{o}.
	Ellis Gray	d^{o}.
	Samuel Eliot	d^{o}.
	Daniel Parker	d^{o}.
	Thomas Adams	d^{o}.

were chosen Constables for the Year ensuing

Cap^{t}. Robert Davis having desired the Town to excuse him from serving as a Warden the ensuing Year — he was accordingly excused

M^{r}. Stephen Gore chosen one of the Wardens for the Year ensuing having desired to be excused from serving **[518.]** in that Office — he was accordingly excused by the Town

Voted, that this Meeting be now Adjourned according to the Vote already passed ; — and it was accordingly Adjourned

Saturday the 31 Day of March, 9. O'Clock Forenoon met according to Adjournment

The Article in the Warrant Viz^t : To consider whether the Town will Lease the North Battery for a long term" — was read, and after some debate, it was moved and carried, that the further consideration of this Article be referred

The Inhabitants were then directed to withdraw, and bring in their Votes for four Wardens — and the same having been brought in and sorted it appeared that

Mess^{rs}. John Larkin
Samuel Avis
Hopestill Foster
Nath^l. Sheppard

were chose Wardens for the ensuing Year

Mess^{rs} : Edward Tuckerman Jonathan Amory, John Read, Benj^a. Clark, Joseph Barrell, John Welch, Mungo Mackay, Ellis Gray, Samuel Eliot, Daniel Parker and Thomas Adams, chosen Constables for the ensuing Year, having desired the Town to excuse them from serving in that Office — they were accordingly excused

[**519.**] It being moved that the 1st. Vote of the Report of the Committee on Ways and Means for choosing twenty four Assessors, be now reconsidered, and that Seven Assessors only be now chosen, the Question was accordingly put, and passed in the Affermative

It was also moved that the 3^d. Vote, in said Report, relative to the Assessors not being allowed a precuniary reward for their Servicies in that Office be now reconsidered and set aside — and the Question being accordingly put — Passed in the Affermative

The Inhabitants were then directed to bring in their Votes for seven Assessors, and the same being brought in and sorted, it appeared that only four were chosen — Viz^t.

Mess^{rs}. William Lowder
Samuel Downe
Samuel Ruggles Esq
Bartholomew Kneeland

The Inhabitants as directed, brought in their Votes for three Assessors and the same being sorted it appeared, that

Gyles Harris Esq^r. — excused.
Moses May
Samuel Dyer

were chosen Assessors for the Year ensuing

Adjourned to 3. O'Clock in the Afternoon

3. O'Clock P: M: met according to Adjournment

On a Motion made — Voted, that the last Vote in the Report of the Committee on Ways and Means be reconsidered and set aside

[**520.**] Voted, that two and one half p Cent, be and hereby is allowed to the Persons that shall be chose Collectors of Taxes for the year ensuing, on all such Sums of Money as they shall Collect, provided they pay the same into the Several Treasuries before the second Monday in March 1782 — which Premium appears to be a Just and equitable and an ample allowance to the Collectors, to encourage them to discharge their duty with diligence and fidelity; provided also that each of said Collectors give Bond with Sufficient Sureties to the Satisfaction of the Selectmen for the faithfull discharge of their duty in said Office, and complying with this Vote

Voted, that the Collectors of Taxes be and they hereby are directed and impowered to deduct five p cent from the Amount of the Town Tax, on the Tax Bills of all those Persons who shall within forty Days after the date of the same pay in their Town Taxes to said Collectors, and that this be noted on the Tax Bill — also

Voted, that the Town Treasurer be directed and impowered to allow the deduction of the Five p. Cent aforesaid made by the Collectors as aforesaid provided they pay the same within five Days after the expiration of the forty

The Town having determined to Choose four Collectors of Taxes for the year ensuing; the Inhabitants were desired to withdraw and bring in their Votes accordingly, and the same having been brought in and sorted, it appeared, that

[521.] Francis Shaw Esqr.
Mr. Benjamin Sumner Junr.
Mr. Thomas Bayley
Mr. James Thompson

were chosen Collectors of Taxes for the Year ensuing

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for 12 Constables, in the room of those who were chosen in the Forenoon & declined, serving — and the same having been brought in and sorted, it appeared, that

Messrs. Samuel Whitney	(sworn)
John Ballard - - - - -	excused
William Fallass - - - - -	d°.
John Cogswell - - - - -	d°.
Jacob Edes - - - - - -	d°.
John Woart - - - - - -	d°.
Nathaniel Cobbit - - - - -	d°.
Benjamin Clarke - - - - -	d°.
John Rice - - - - - - -	d°.
Jeremiah Belknap - - - -	d°.
Shubaiel Hews - - - - -	d°.
Elijah Marsh - - - - - -	d°.

were chosen

Adjourned to Monday next being the 2d. Day of April. 3. O.Clock Afternoon

Monday the 2d. Day of April. 3. O.Clock Afternoon — Met according to Adjournment —

Mr. Jeremiah Belknap
Mr. John Rice
Capt. John Ballard

Mr. John Cogswell
[522.] Mr. Jacob Edes
Mr. John Woart
Mr. Elijah Marsh
Mr. Shubael Hewes
Mr. William Fallass
Mr. Benjamin Clark

having desired the Town to excuse them from serving in the Office of Constables to which they had been chosen at the last Meeting — they were accordingly excused

Upon, the Inhabitants being directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for ten Constables in the room of those which have been excused — a Motion was made and carried, that the choice of Constables be referred to the Adjournment

Gyles Harris Esqr, having in writing excused himself from serving as an Assessor, it was Moved &

Voted, that the choice of an Assessor in the room of Mr. Harris who has resigned, be referred over to the Adjournment of this Meeting

The Article in the Warrant Vizt. Whether the Town will Lease the North Battery for a long term" — was read whereupon it was moved and Voted that a Committee be now appointed to consider this Article and to confer with any Person disposed to purchase or Lease the Estate, and to Report at the Adjournment what they Apprehend will be for the Interest of the Town to be done thereon — also

Voted, that Deacon Sharp
Mr. Ebenezer Dorr
Colo. Symms
[523.] Thomas Dawes Esqr.
Capt. John Ballard
John Lucas Esqr.
Mr. Thomas Parker
Colo. Nathaniel Barber
William Storey Esqr.

be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid sent

The Article in the Warrent. Vizt.

To consider of the Petition of a Number of the Inhabitants, that such Measures may be taken as may most effectually discountenance an illicit & Careful trade with the Enemies of the United States" — was read, whereupon it was Moved, and Voted, that a Committee be now appointed to take this Matter into consideration, and Report at the Adjournment of this Meeting, what they apprehend may be best to be done thereon — also

Voted, that the Committee of Correspondence & Inspection & Safety, be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid.

Moved, that the foregoing Votes for choosing a Committee, to consider the Article in the Warrant relative to an illicit trade, be reconsidered, and that the consideration of this matter be referred to the Adjournment

The Question being accordingly put — Passed in the Affirmative

On a Motion. Voted, that the Town Treasurer be directed to acquaint the Justices, that a particular Account of the Towns proportion of Fines, [**524.**] Received by them, will be expected from them by the Adjournment

Moved & Voted, that the late Constables be desired to continue their good services in that Office, till other Constables are chosen and Sworn into that Office ; and that they be desired to favor the Town, with a List of such suitable Persons as they apprehend would willingly Serve the Town as Constables the Year ensuing ; at the Adjournment of this Meeting

It was moved that this Meeting be now Adjourned to Wednesday the 11th Day of April, 10. O'Clock & Before Noon

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

Wednesday the 11th. Day of April 10. O'Clock Forenoon — Met according to Adjournment

Mr. Nathaniel Cobbit appeared and having desired the Town to excuse him from serving as a Constable into which Office he was lately chosen — he was accordingly excused

The Inhabitants were directed to bring in their Votes for eleven Constables ; and the same being brought in and sorted, it appeared that

	Messrs. John Doake - - - - -	excused
	Josiah Simpson	(sworn)
	John Hewes	excused
	Alexander Mc.Cloud.	(sworn)
[**525.**]	Elkanah Hayden - - - -	(sworn)
	John Mc.Fadden - - - -	excused
	Benjamin Vezie - - - - - -	d°.
	William Baxter	
	William Rogers	(sworn)
	William Ballard	excused
	Edward Jones	d°.

were chose Constables for the ensuing Year

The Committee relative to Leasing the North Battery — Report as follows Vizt.

That they have Attended the service, and having fully viewed the North Battery are fully of Opinion that it will be for the interest of the Town to sell the same for the Most it will fetch — that to form some estimate of the value they are of Opinion, that some suitable Persons, who are proper Judges should make an estimate thereof to enable the Persons appointed to sell the same to form some Judgement of the value, the Committee beg leave to purpose to the Town whether it would not be best to give the purchaser liberty to pay for the same in three payments — they have conversed with Mr. Jones who seems inclined to purchase

Gibbins Sharp p order

The foregoing Report having been read and considered, whereupon the Question was put Vizt. — "Whether the same shall be accepted — Passed in the Affermative

[**526.**] Voted, that the Selectmen be served with a Copy of the foregoing Vote, and that they be and hereby are Authorised and impowered to make Sale of said Estate in such manner as they shall Judge most for the interest of the Town

sent

The Committee appointed to consider the expediency of Leasing or making Sale of any part of the Towns Land on the Neck — Reported, — and After considerable debate had thereon it was moved and Voted, that the same be recommitted, and that the Committee take into consideration the terms of the late M^r. Sutten Byles Lease of part of those Lands, as also the best method to defend the Neck from the incroachments of the Sea, and to Report to the Town as soon as may be

The Town Treasurer laid before the Town a Letter from M^r. Justice Gardner acquainting them with the State of the Fines he had received from M^r. Justice Greenleaff

The Overseers of the Poor, having represented to the Town that they were in such want of Money, that unless they are furnished with some immediatley they must open the Almshouse Doors to let the Poor out — whereupon

Voted, that Samuel Ruggles Esq^r, be a Committee to enquire of the Treasurer what immediate provision it is in his power to make for the supply of the Almshouse

[527.] Adjourned to 3. O'Clock in the Afternoon

3 O.Clock Afternoon — met according to Adjournment

M^r. John Hews desired to be excused from serving as a Constable the present Year — and he was accordingly excused by the Town

M^r. Benjamin Vezie desires to be excused from serving as a Constable the present year — and he was accordingly excused

The Letter of M^r. Justice Greenleaf and the Account of M^r. Justice Greenleaf laid before the Town by the Treasurer were both read — whereupon

Voted, that said Letter & Account be referred to the Committee appointed to make enquiry, and that said Committee appointed be desired to call upon the Executor's of the Will of the late Justice Pemberton deceased for the Towns proportion of Fines which had been received by said Justice

The Committee appointed to enqufre of the Town Treasurer what Sums he could furnish for the supply of the Almshouse — Reported, that having made the enquirey directed, they were informed by the Treasurer, that he had not any Monies in his hands, & therefore should not be Able to supply any Monies, except the Collectors should bring in of what they have to Collect — that of the five hundred thousand pounds granted **[528.]** in November last, no more than fifty two thousand had as yet been received by him into the Treasurey

The Gentlemen the Overseers of the Poor having represented in a Most affecting Manner, the present suffering and almost perishing circumstances of the Poor in the Almshouse, and the Necessity of an immediate and Adequate supply of Money to enable them to provide for their support and to prevent what must Otherwise unadvoidably take place — Viz^t. The opening the doors of the Almshouse, that such of those unhappy Sufferers as are able to walk out may from door to door seek such relief of their compassionate and Christian Townsmen as might save them from perishing; and the Town having taken this representation into their Serious consideration

Voted, that a Committee be appointed in each Ward to raise by Subscription of the several Inhabitants, a sum not exceeding two thousand Pounds in Silver or Current Money equivilent for the immediate supply of the Almshouse, and that the Chairman of the respective Wards, shall receive the Subscriptions and return the Money subscribed together with the Subscription paper to the Town Treasurer who shall furnish the respective Collectors of Taxes with Attested Copies of the Same in order to their deducting said Sums out of the [**529.**] Taxes of the respective Lenders from the next tax that shall be issued, & that the head of a Subscription Paper be drawn up by the Town Clerk, and delivered to the Chairman of each Ward

Voted, that Mess^{rs}. Silas Atkins
Nathaniel Barber Ju^{r}.
John R. Sigourney
be a Committee for Ward N^{o}. 1 to answer the purpose aforesaid.

Mess^{rs}. Jedediah Parker
Thomas Coverly Vernon
Foster Cruft
a Committee for Ward - - - - - - - - - - - - - N^{o}. 2.

John Tudor Esq^{r}.
Cap^{t}. John Ballard
Jonathan Mountford J^{r}.
a Committee for Ward - - - - - - - - - - - - N^{o}. 3.

Mess^{rs}. Daniel Parker
John Larking
Col^{o}. Syms
a Committee for Ward - - - - - - - - - - - - - N^{o}. 4.

D^{r}. William Clark
Cap^{t}. John Pulling
M^{r}. Thomas Hitchburne
a Committee for Ward - - - - - - - - - - - - - N^{o}. 5.

Mess^{rs}. Joseph Hall
Samuel Barret
M^{r}. Stephen Amory
a Committee for Ward - - - - - - - - - - - - - N^{o}. 6.

Mess^{rs}. Timothy Newell
Richard Salter
Joseph Callender
[**530.**] a Committee for Ward - - - - - - - - - N^{o}. 7.

Cap^{t}. John Simpkins
Jeremiah Belknap
Samuel Eleot
a Committee for Ward - - - - - - - - - - - - - N^{o}. 8.

Mess^rs. Elisha Sigorney
Luke Baker
Zephion Thayer
a Committee for Ward - - - - - - - - - - - - - N°. 9.

Charles Miller Esq^r.
Adam Colson
Stephen Hall
a Committee for Ward - - - - - - - - - - - - - N°. 10

Cap^t. Nehemiah Somes
Joseph Barrel
Thomas Tileston
a Committee for Ward - - - - - - - - - - - - - N°. 11

Deacon Thomas Bayley
Deacon John Procter
M^r. William Marshall
a Committee for Ward - - - - - - - - - - - - - N°. 12

The following is the Head of a Subscription Paper delivered to the Chairman of each Ward — Viz^t.

We the Subscribers most sensibly effected with the foregoing Representation of the present condition of the aged decriped & other suffering Poor in the Almshouse, some of whom have lived well and contributed their share towards the Publick expence; and fully apprehensive [**531.**] not only of the many and great inconveniences that must take place upon those Poor being thrown upon the Charity of Private Families, but of the great reproach it would Justly bring upon the Inhabitants of this Town, both as Men and as Christians, for so cruel and unpresidented a Neglect — do therefore hereby chearfully engage to pay the respective Sums affixed to our Names, to the Chairmen of the Above Committee, upon the condition and for the purposes expressed in the aforegoing Vote

The Committee appointed for inlisting this Towns proportion of Men for the Continental Army — Acquainted the Town how far they had proceeded in the service Assigned them

Moved that this Meeting be Adjourned to Fryday next being the 13^th of April — 3 O.Clock Afternoon

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

Fryday April 13^th. 3. O'Clock Afternoon met according to Adjournment

M^r. Benjamin Vezie and M^r. William Ballard, who have been chosen Constables for the ensuing Year, appeared, and having desired the Town to excuse them from serving in that Office, they were accordingly excused

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for two Constables, and the same having been brought in and Sorted, it appeared that

[**532.**] Mess^rs. John Hunt - - - - - - - sworn
Rufus Bent - - - - - - - - d°.

were chose Constables for the ensuing Year

M^r. John Doak & M^r. Edward Jones, who have been chosen

Constables for the Year, ensuing, having desired to be excused from serving in that Office they
were accordingly excused from serving by the Town

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for two Constables, and the same being brought in and sorted, it appeared that

Messrs. Elijah Searl - - - - - - - sworn
Spencer Walker - - - - excused

were chosen Constables for the ensuing Year —

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for one Assessor, and the same having been brought in and sorted, it appeared that

George B. Gedney

was chosen an Assessor for the ensuing Year —

Mr. John Hews chosen into the Office of Constable for the Year ensuing having prayed that he might be excused from serving in that Office, he was accordingly excused by the Town

The Town brought in their Votes as directed, for one Constable, and upon sorting them it appeared that Mr. Foster Cruft was chosen a Constable for the ensuing Year excused

[**533.**] Mr. John McFadden chosen into the Office of Constable, for the ensuing Year, having desired to be excused by the Town from serving, he was accordingly excused

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for one Constable, and the same being brought in and sorted, it appeared that

Mr. William Clough sworn

was chosen a Constable for the ensuing Year

Mr. Clough attended & desired to be excused serving as a Constable & the Question was put, but did not obtain

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for one Constable, and the same having been brought in and sorted, it appeared that

Mr. Samuel Smith

was chosen a Constable for the Year ensuing

On a Motion Voted, that

Mr. Joseph Russell
Ezekiel Price Esqr.
Stephen Higginson Esqr.

the Committee on Mr. Fraziers Petition make up the depreciation on his debt according to Continental Scale of depreciation

On a Motion Voted, that all Matters and Things which remaine unfinish'd at this Meeting be referred over to May Meeting

[**534.**] On a Motion — Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby are given to John Brown Esqr. Moderator Pro. Temo. for the good services, in dispatching the business of the Meeting

Then the Meeting was dissolved

At a Meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the Town of Boston of Twenty One Years of Age and Upwards, qualified as the Constitution prescribes and legally warned in publick Town Meeting, Assembled at Fanuiel Hall on Monday the 2^{d}. Day of April A.D. 1781 —

Prayer was made by the Rev^{d}. M^{r}. Clark

Warrant for calling the Meeting read

Paragraphs of the Constitution or Form of Government, relative to the choice of Governor, Lievetinant Governor, and six Senators for the County of Suffolk

It was then declared by the Selectmen that no Votes would be received but such as are unfolded, and that they purpose that the Poll shall be closed at half an hour past Twelve O'Clock

It was moved and Voted, that the Bells be rung at a quarter past 12. O'Clock

[**535.**] Persons Voted, for as Governor, with the number of Votes for each Person — Viz^{t}.

His Excellency John Hancock Esq^{r}.
Five hundred & thirteen Votes

Persons Voted, for as Luiev^{t}. Governor with the Number of Votes for each Person — Viz^{t}.

	Votes
His Honer Thomas Cushing Esq^{r}. - - - -	480
Honb^{le}. Samuel Adams Esq^{r}. - - -	12
Honb^{le}. Azor Orne Esq^{r}. - - - - - -	2
M^{r}. Elias Parkman - - - - - - -	2
M^{r}. Nathaniel Tracy - - - - - -	1
Thomas ——— Esq^{r}. - - - -	1

Persons Voted, for as Senators for the County of Suffolk with the Number of Votes for each Person Viz^{t}.

	Votes
Ellis Gray Esq^{r}. - - - - - - - -	4
Honb^{le}. Jeremiah Powell Esq^{r}. -	508
Samuel Adams Esq^{r}. - - - - -	479
John Pitts Esq^{r}. - - - - - - -	505
Jabez Fisher - - - - - - - -	510
Increase Sumner - - - - - - -	512
Samuel Niles - - - - - - - -	20
Cotton Tuffts - - - - - - - -	476
M^{r}. Leonard Jarvis - - - - - -	4
Hon^{ble}. Benjamin White - - - -	6
Hon^{ble}. Thomas Cushing Esq^{r}. - -	9
John Rowe Esq^{r}. - - - - - - -	11
Hon^{ble}. Caleb Davis Esq^{r}. - - - -	1
John Lowell Esq^{r}. - - - - - -	2
Hon^{ble}. William Phillips Esq^{r}. - - -	1

[**536.**] Attested Copies of the Persons Voted for as Governor Leivetenant Governor and Senators for the County of Suffolk were committed to the Secretary of this Commonwealth. and the Inclosure sealed up in Town Meeting — Superscribed as follows — Viz^{t}.

For
John Avery Jun^r^. Esq^r^.
Secretary of the Commonwealth
of Massachusetts

The Number of Votes of the Town of Boston for a Governor Leivetanant Governor and Six Senators for the County of Suffolk, Certified within and Sealed up in Town Meeting

Then the Meeting was dessolved

At a legal Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston at Faneiuel Hall April 27—1781 — 3. O'Clock Afternoon

Warrant for calling y^e^. Meeting — read

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for a Moderator, and the same being brought in and sorted, it appeared that

John Tudor Esq^r^.

was chosen

The Article in the Warrant Viz^t^. "To consider and determine upon the most expeditious **[537.]** measures for making up the Towns defficiency of Men for the Continental Army, Occasioned by the neglect or refusal of some Classes and Individuals in Classes to procure them; as also to give in to the Assessors the Names of every such Delinquent that they may be Assessed as the Law directs the full value of the same which shall be expended in procuring their Men together with the 50 pC^t^. the Town have Voted shall be laid upon the respective Delinquents in Addition to the charge aforesaid" — was read — whereupon the Committee for Inlisting Men were called upon to inform the Town what Classes were defficient, who Reported — That 36 men the Committee have receipted for from the Classes — 1 Man inlisted by a Class for which the Committee did not Receipt — making 37 Men from the Classes — 81 Inlisted by the Committee — the whole - - - - - - 118 Men — 63 Men wanting

65 Classes have paid £36 — & each have a Man Assigned. 60 ditto have paid in part £36 — 125 Classes have paid in full and in part of £36 — 37 Classes have got their Men

Classes
themselves making - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 162
Classes Delinquent - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 19

181

37 from Classes
65 Assigned

102
16 Men to Assign

On a Motion, Voted, that at the Adjournment of this Meeting, the Committee for Inlisting Men be desired to make Report of their doings, and **[538.]** The Names of all the Persons who are

Delinquents, with respect to paying their respective Assessments for procuring the Men; and the Town will then take immediate Measures to procure the Men; and return the Names of such Delinquents to the Assessors

On a Motion — Voted, that when this Meeting is Adjourned it shall be to next Monday Seven night — 3. O.Clock. Afternoon

On a Motion — Voted, that the Committee for Inlisting Men be desired to make enquirey with respect to such Persons as are carrying out and Inlisting Men for Other Towns, and to lay the proofs with the Names of such Persons; before the Town at the Adjournment of this Meeting, that they may be dealt with according to their deserts

Adjournment to the 7th. Day of May next being Monday. 3. OClock in the Afternoon

Monday the 7 Day of May. 3. O'Clock Afternoon — Met according to Adjournment

The Committee for Inlisting the Towns proportion of Men for the Continental Army, being called upon to Report their doings to the Town — they accordingly Reported that they had inlisted — One hundred and twenty 1 Men

The Chairman of the Committee appointed to make enquiry what Sums remained due from the several Justice of the Peace for the Towns proportion [**539.**] of the Fines by them received from time to time

Reported, that they had discoursed with Mr. Justice Gardner relative to those fines, and also had read his Letter to the Town respecting those Fines and what he had paid in and done for the Town, and upon the whole they think what he has paid and done, may be looked upon as Satisfactory for what is past, but that a regular Account ought to be kept by the Justices in future; and that they be duly called upon by the Town Treasurer, for the Towns proportion of such Fines as they may have received — the Letter from Mr. Justice Gardner to the Town, was again read — And the Question being then put — Vizt. Whether the same shall be accepted as Satisfactory to the Town — Passed in the Affermative

It was moved & Voted, that Mr. Justice Greenleaf be desired to lay before the Selectmen by next Wednesday all his returned Warrants since the Town was opened, or an Account of the Towns proportion of fines, making Oath that he Apprehends the same to be the full amount of what has been received by him in that time for the Towns proportion of Fines

Voted, that the Town Treasurer be directed to call upon the several Justices for a particular Account of the Towns proportion of Fines received by them, every Six Months, and also for the Sums which those Fines may severally Amount to within that time, and in case of refusal or neglect, to prosecute them for the Same, Agreeable to the Law of this Commonwealth

[**540.**] The Committee for Inlisting the Towns proportion of Men for the Continental Army Reported the Names of Deliquents Persons in the several Classes — Whereupon

Voted, that said Committee be desired to Report at the Next Town Meeting, what they shall apprehend will be the best method for raising the Money necessary to procure the Men wanted for the Delinquent Class and Individuals

On a Motion — Voted, that the further acting upon the Article of the Warrant, be referred over to the General Town Meeting in May

Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby are given to John Tudor Esqr. for his good services as Moderator of this Meeting

Then the Meeting was dessolved

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, duly qualified and legally warned in publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Wednesday the 16th Day of May Anno Domini 1781. 10 O'Clock Forenoon

Prayer made by the Revd. Mr. Wight

Warrant for calling the Meeting. read

That part of the Constitution or Form of Goverment which relates to the choice of Representatives annually read

[541.] Sundry Laws - - - - - - read

The Town having determined to choose seven Persons to represent them in the General Assembly of Massachusetts to be held at the State House in Boston upon the last Wednesday of May Current, agreeable to the Constitution or Form of Goverment for the Massachusetts. — The Inhabitants were accordingly directed to withdraw, and bring in their Votes for seven Representatives, and then it was declared by the Selectmen, that no Votes will be received, but such as are unfolded, and that they purpose the Poll shall be closed at 12. O.Clock

The Votes being brought in for seven Representatives, the number of the same were found to be four hundred thirty eight, and upon sorting them it Appeared, that the following Persons were chose — Vizt.

The Honble. Samuel Adams Esqr. - - - -	415
The Honble. Caleb Davis Esqr. - - - - -	273
Thomas Daws Esqr. - - - - - - - - -	421
John Lowell Esqr. - - - - - - - - - -	421
Samuel A. Otis Esqr. - - - - - - - - -	260
Leonard Jarvis - - - - - - - - - - -	237
Stephen Higginson Esqr. - - - - - - - -	408

The choice of Representatives being over and declared by the Selectmen, the Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for a Moderator of this Meeting, in order that the Town may proceed in transacting the Other Affairs mentioned in the Warrant; accordingly the Inhabitants withdrew and Brought in their Votes, and upon sorting them it appeared that

[542.] John Brown Esqr.

was chosen

Mr. Brown not being in the Meeting, or to be found, it was moved that a Moderator Pro. Temo: be now chosen

The Inhabitants were accordingly directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for a Moderator Pro Tem^{o}. — and the same being brought in and sorted, it appeared, that

John Scollay Esq^{r}.

was chosen

Adjourned to 3. O'Clock in the Afternoon

3 O.Clock Afternoon met according to Adjournment

M^{r}. Brown the Moderator of the Meeting, & M^{r}. Scollay chosen Moderator Pro. Tem^{o}. being both Absent, it was moved, & Voted that the Town proceed to the Choice of another

The Inhabitants were accordingly directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for a Moderator and the same having been brought in and sorted, it appeared that

Samuel Allen Otis Esq^{r}.

was chosen

The Article in the Warrant Viz^{t}. "To consider whether Instruction shall be given the Representatives [**543.**] that may be chosen" — was read and after debate had thereon, it was moved, and the Question accordingly put— Viz^{t}. Whether the Town will now Instruct the Representatives that have been chosen — passed in the Negative

The Petition of the Collectors of Taxes, "that the Town will reconsider the Vote lately passed respecting the Premium to be allowed for collecting the Taxes; and also determine with respect to the Abatement of certain Taxes to them committed" was read whereupon it was moved and carried that a Committee be appointed to consider said Petition, and Report at the Adjournment of this Meeting

Voted, that M^{r}.Joseph Barrel
M^{r}. Herm̄an Brimmer
Cap^{t}. William Mackey excus'd
M^{r}. John White

be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

Moved, that an Application be made to the General Court relative to the Old Monies — depreciating — after some debate it was moved, and carried that the Matter subside for the present

Voted, that M^{r}. Samuel Hunt Master of the South Grammer School be allowed and paid the Sum of Ninety Pounds in Gold & Silver or current Money equivilent thereto at the time he shall receive the same out of the Treasuery, for Six Months Salary as Master of said School, the same to commence the 1st. of March last

[**544.**] Voted, that the Sum of Ninety Pounds be allowed and paid unto M^{r}. Aaron Smith Master of the North Grammer School, in Gold & Silver or Current Money equivilent thereto at the time he shall receive the same out of the Treasury, for Six Months Salary as Master of said School, the same to commence the first of March last

Voted, that the Sum of Seventy five pounds be allowed and paid unto M^{r}. John Tileston Master of the North Writing School, in Gold & Silver or current Money equivilent thereto at the Time he shall receive the Same out of the Treasury for Six

Months Salary as Master of said School, the same to commence the first of March last — also

Voted, that the said Mr. Tileston have an Additional allowance of Eighteen Pounds p Annum for House Rent or the Exchange as aforesaid,

Voted, that the Sum of Seventy five Pounds be allowed and paid unto Mr. James Carter Master of the Writing School in Queen Street, in Gold & Silver or current Money equivilent thereto at the time he shall receive the same out of the Treasurey for Six Months Salary as Master of said School, the same to commence the first of March last

[545.] Voted, that the Sum of Forty five Pounds be Allowed, and paid unto Mr. William Croswell Usher of the South Grammer School, in Gold & Silver or Current Money equivelent thereto at the time he shall receive the same out of the Treasury for Six Months Salary as Usher of said School the same to commence the first of March last

The Committee for Inlisting the Towns proportion of Men for the Continental Army — Reported there proceedings. Verbally —

Adjourned to Fryday next being the 22d Day of May Inst. 3. O'Clock

Fryday May 22d. 3. O.Clock in the Afternoon. Met according to Adjournment

Voted, that the Selectmen be a Committee to Act upon the List of Jurors

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for three Constables, — and the same being brought in and sorted it Appeared that

Messrs. Benajah Davenport sworn
Samuel Sprague
Joshua Beal excused

were chosen Constables for the ensuing year

The Committee appointed to consider the Petition of the Collectors of Taxes, having Attended that service are of Opinion with respect to the **[546.]** Abatement of the Taxes, that the Assessors are the proper Judges, and therefore advise that they be directed to Abate all those Persons their Taxes, that by Law are exempted from payment and all those which cannot be Collected which they are convinced were not lost by the Omission of the Collectors, but if any are become bad by their carelessness or undue lenity, in that case the Committee are of Opinion that those sums so lost be not abated, but that the Collectors make them good — and the Selectmen be desired to liquidate and settle their accounts as soon as may be

The Committee beg leave to sugest that Application be made to the General Court by our Representatives that a law may be made, expressly and *explicitly* to enable the Assessors to tax such Persons, as do not reside in Town but do their business here, altho they are Taxed elsewhere, as nothing can appear more unreasonable than the Determination of a late Court of Sessions, that a Man shall pay his whole Taxes to a Town, *where he does not* acquire a farthing, but only spend, the property *which he acquires in this Town while this Town reaps no benefit although the business would otherwise be done by Persons residing here*

The Committee are of Opinion that the Premium of two and half p Cent allowed the Collectors for Collecting the Taxes, is sufficient for that service and that they be enjoined to pay in from time to time, to the Town Treasurer at the [**547.**] same time they pay into the State Treasurer, the full proportion of the Towns Taxes, and that the Treasurer of the Town make it a standing Rule whenever the State Treasurer Issues his Executions, that he does the same, without further Order from the Town

Joseph Barrell p Order

The foregoing Report having been read and considered, the Question was put Viz^t.— Whether the same shall be accepted Passed in the Affermative — also

Voted, that the Town Clerk furnish the Assessors, the respective Collectors and the Town Treasurer with attested Copies of the aforegoing Vote

The Committee appointed to liquidate the Account of Nathan Frazier Esq^r. for Monies lent the Town at several Times — Report

That they find the Sum of £601 .. 19 .. 8 Silver Money due to him as appears by the within State — that the Town Treasurer take his Notes given to M^r. Frazier, and grant him a New Note for the above sum payable in Silver Money or an equivilant thereto in Current Money when paid — this new Note to bear this date and carry Interest

Joseph Russell Jun^r
Ezekiel Price
Stephen Higginson

[***547.**] The foregoing Report having been read and considered — the Question was put. Viz^t. Whether the same shall be accepted Passed in the Affermative

On a Motion — Voted, that a Committee be appointed to give in an Estimate of the Sum necessary to be raised for defraying the Expencies of the Current Year, and that they determine upon such Appropriations of the Same as they shall Judge to be expedient

Voted, that M^r. Joseph Barrel
M^r. Edward Payne
M^r. Jonathan Mason
Stephen Higginson Esq^r.
The Hon^ble. William Phillips Esq^r

be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid — to Report at the Adjournment of this Meeting

Adjourned to next Fryday seven Night being the 1^t. of June 3. O'Clock in the Afternoon

Fryday the 1^st. Day of June 3. OClock in the Afternoon — Met according to Adjournment

M^r. Samuel Allyne Otis Esq^r. the Moderator of this Meeting not being able to give his attendance — The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in Votes for a Moderator Pro Tem°. — And the same having been brought in and sorted, it appeared that

John Rowe Esqr.

was chosen Moderator of the Meeting

[548.] Mr. Benjamin Sumner, Mr. James Thompson, & Mr. Thomas Bayley three of the Persons chosen Collectors of Taxes for the ensuing Year, being in the Meeting, were called upon to inform the Town, whether they accepted of the choice made of them for Collectors of Taxes — when they answered in the Affermative

The Committee appointed to give in an Estimate of the Sum necessary to be raised for defraying the Expencies of the Current year & to determine how it should be appropriated, being in the Meeting were called upon for their Report — whereupon said Committee Acquainted the Town, that they were not as yet able to make Report, and desired further time for that purpose which was granted them

On a Motion — Voted, that all Matters, and Things, which remain unfinished at this Meeting be referred over to the next General Town Meeting which may be called

Then the Meeting was dissolved

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in a publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Tuesday the 12th. Day of June Anno Domini 1781. 3. O'Clock. Afternoon —

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read

[549.] Precept for the choice of one Representative - - - read

The Town having determined to choose a Person to Represent them in the General Assembly of this Commonwealth in the room of the Honble. Samuel Adams Esqr, chosen a Senator agreable to a Precipt received for that purpose — The Inhabitants were accordingly directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes, for one Representative, and then it was declared by the Selectmen that no Votes will be received by the Selectmen but such as are unfolded, and from Persons who enter the Hall after they have Voted and remain untill the Poll is closed which they propose shall be at 5 O'Clock.

The Votes being brought in for one Representative, the number of the same were found to be - - - - - 394 and upon sorting them it appeared that

John Rowe Esqr. - - - - - - - 300

was chosen

The choice of Representative being over and declared by the Selectmen the Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for a Moderator of this Meeting in Order that the Town may proceed in transacting the Other Affairs mentioned in the Warrant; accordingly the Inhabitants withdrew and brought in their Votes, and upon sorting them it appeared that

[550.] The Hon^{ble}. Benjamin Austin Esq^{r}. was chosen

The Committee appointed to consider what Monies are necessary to defray the Charges of the Current Year, and in what manner the same shall be appropriated — being ready to Report — the Question was put Viz^{t}. — Whether the same shall now be taken up and Acted upon — passed in the Affermative

The Committee appointed to form an Estimate of the Sum necessary for the Currant Expencies of the Year, and to appropriate it Report

That they find the Sum expended last Year for the expences of the Town amounted in Specie to about five thousand pounds lawfull Money, as appears by the Selectmen and Overseers draughts which Sum the Committee are of Opinion will be sufficient for the present Year

That they find the debts due from the Town as by List taken in May 1780 — Amounted to about twelve thousand pounds lawfull, Money in Specie exclusive of Interest.. but what proportion of these debts are paid cannot be assertained untill the Treasurer liquidate and settle his Accounts, with the Collectors and Others, which the Treasu. says is impossible to be done without a Sufficient Assistant; if the Tax now proposed is put into his hands

That the Sum of *Nine Thousand Pounds* be raised, the Tax to be made in Gold or Silver, **[551.]** and paid in Specie or an equivalent in the new Emissions at the rates affixed by the Judges Scale of Depretiation at the time the Tax is essued, and appropriated as follows — One third to discharge the Overseers Draughts, one third to discharge what remains of the Selectmen and Overseers Draughts for 1779 & 1780 — (if there is not sufficient in the Treasury for the purpose) — the Residue with what may remain of the two Other, appropriations towards, discharging the Interest and part of the principal of the debts now due from the Town, and that the Treasurer be enjoined to pay to each Department (if applied for) in Just proportion and time as the Money comes into his hands

That the Collectors settle their former Accounts immediately or their Bonds put in Suite, and that they Collect the present Tax as soon as may be; and pay it into the Treasurer as soon as same is Collected; and if a New Scale of Depretiation is made, before the whole Tax is collected, the Delinquents to pay according to the New Scale; and no depretiation to be allowed the Collectors, but agreeably to the Scale at the time they make their payments to the Treasurer

That the Treasurer be Directed to liquidate the debts and give new Notes (to those that choose it) including the Interest for all Sums prior to 1776 to be paid in Specie, and for all **[552.]** Sums after that date, in Specie or an equivalent in Currency

That the Treasurer immediately open a New set of Books to be kept in Specie, the New Notes when liquidated, numbered & transferred into these Books, where the Tax now proposed, and the Appropriations are to be entered

That the Monthly Draughts of the Selectmen and Overseers be paid in course as they are drawn and no part of the second Month untill the first (if applied for) are discharged; except only such Drafts from the Overseer's as may be in faviour of Persons from the Country

That a List be taken by the Treasurer of those that are in want of the Monies borrowed, and if they exceed the Sum appropriated for the purpose, he proportion it in as equitable a Manner as may be

That M^r^. Edward Payne
Col^o^. Josiah Waters
M^r^. Herman Brimmer

be a Committee, and upon the publication of every new scale. the Treasurer immediatley Apply to this Committee with an Account of what Money he has on hand, and this Committee shall examine the Money, and Affix what depretiation there is upon it and Charge it to the Town, but [**553.**] if the Treasurer shall omit to apply as aforesaid he shall have no allowance for any depretiation whatever.

That a Copy of this Report be delivered tŏ each of this Committee who are desired to see the aforegoing regulations are put in Execution at the Treasury

Joseph Barrel p Order

The foregoing Report having been taken up and considered, paragraph by Paragraph — the Question was put — Viz^t^.—Whether the same shall be accepted — Passed in the Affermative

Whereas great inconveniences and embarressments have arisen in the Treasurers Accounts from the Collectors of Taxes not settling their Accounts and paying the Sums committed to them to Collect in the course of the Year therefor Voted, that no Person who has heretofore been a Collector of Taxes shall be hereafter chosen into that Office untill he has settled his Accounts and paid into the Treasurey the whole Sum committed to him to Collect — his Commissions and any Abatement the Assessors may make him being deducted

Moved, that a Committee be now appointed to agree with one or more suitable Person or Persons to Assist M^r^. Treasurer Jeffries — and the Question being put — Passed in the Affermative

Voted, that M^r^. Edward Payne
Col^o^. Josiah Waters
M^r^. Herman Brimmer
M^r^. Alex^r^. Hodsdon

be a Committee for that purpose

BOSTON TOWN RECORDS.

[SEVENTH BOOK.]

The Article in the Warrant Viz^{t}. — To consider the Petition of Jonas Welch, that he may be permitted to take in a Small Strip of the Street leading to the North Mills, for the purpose Mentioned in said Petition — was read, and considered — Whereupon

Voted, that the Selectmen be and hereby are appointed and impowered to make Sale of the Land prayed for by M^{r}. Welch, on such terms as they shall Judge proper

Voted, that the Meeting be Adjourned to Thursday the 21st. of June. 3. O Clock in the Afternoon

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

Thursday the 21st. Day of June 3. O'Clock Afternoon — Met according to Adjournment

Benjamin Austin Esq^{r}. in the Chair

M^{r}. Joshua Beal chosen one of the Constables, in March last, having desired to be excused from searving in that Office, he was accordingly excused by the Town

The Committee Appointed to consider & devise ways, to prevent the incroachment of the Sea upon the Neck, as also to enquire into the terms of M^{r}. Sutton Byles's Lease from the Town of Land on the Neck

[2.] Report, That they have examined into the conditions M^{r}. Byles hired that part of the Neck he improved, and find he was to pay one Shilling a Year for the Rent, which he paid to the Year 1774 and has a Receipt in full to that time — they also find there was no penalty to the Lease, that he was only to re-deliver the possession thereof when the Town required it

Your Committee cannot devise any ways for the Town to prevent the incroachment of the Sea, but building a Stone Wall which they apprehend the Town in their present circumstances are not able to do, Unless they should think proper to make application to the General Court for a Lottery to raise a sum of Money Sufficient for that purpose

GIBBINS SHARP p̧ Order

The foregoing Report having been read and considered, the Question was put — Viz^{t}. Whether the same shall be accepted — Passed in the Affermative

The Committee for Inlisting the Towns Quota for Men for the Continental Army — Reported verbally

That they had still Money on hand for the purpose of hiring Men having been greatly disappointed by the Obstructions thrown in their way, by a M^r. Griffis & Others and that it is the Opinion of the Committee that unless some Method can be devised to remove those difficulties **[3.]** there is but little probability the Number to be raised by the Town will be compleated as there is still wanting — 45 — or 46 Men, & they only expect to procure a few Others — that they have now in hand of the Money Collected of the several Classes, about Six hundred & fifty pounds Specie

The foregoing Report having been consider'd by the Town, it was thereupon Moved and Voted. that the Committee be desired to continue their good services untill the 30th Day of June next

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for two Constables, and the same being brought in and sorted, it Appeared that

Mess^{rs}. George Thomas
John Cook

were chosen Constables for the Year ensuing

Moved and Voted, that all Matters, & things which remain unfinished at this Meeting be referred to the next General Town Meeting

On a Motion Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby are given to Benjamin Austin Esq^r. for his good services as Moderator of this Meeting

Then the Meeting was dissolved

[4.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Thursday the 28th. Day of June Anno Domini 1781 — 3. O. Clock P: M:

Warrant for calling the Meeting read

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for a Moderator, and the Votes being brought in and sorted, it appeared that

M^r. Thomas Walley

was chosen Moderator of this Meeting

The Article in the Warrant — Viz^t.

"To consider what proper Measures may be immediately pursued for carrying into full effect the Resolves of the General Assembly of the 22d. of June Ins^t. for procuring the Towns proportion of the Beef, for the Continental Army" was read

The foregoing Vote of the General Court relative to the procuring live Beef, was also read — and after the same had been considered, it was moved and, Voted, that, a Committee be appointed to consider what may be the most speedy and effectual Measures for procuring the Towns proportion of live Beef **[5.]** for the Continental Army agreeable to the Resolve of the General Court passed the 22 Inst — is also to confer with any Person or Persons, who may appear willing to furnish said Beef; and to devise ways and means for procuring the Money necessary for the purpose aforesaid and Report thereon at the Adjournment

Voted, that Allen Otis, Esqr.
Stephen Higginson Esqr.
Mr. Thomas Walley
Charles Miller Esqr.
John Rowe Esqr.
be and hereby are appointed a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

The Article in the Warrant — Vizt — To consider and determine upon the Most speedy and effectual Measures for raising the Towns Quota of Men, according to a Resolution of the General Assembly in their Sessions — was read — Whereupon, it was moved & Voted, that the consideration of this Article be referred to the Adjournment of this Meeting

The Article in the Warrant Vizt. "To consider what is necessary to be done for the immediate Relief and support of the Poor in the Alms house" — was read, and considered — whereupon a Motion was Made, that application be made to the Revd. Ministers that a Collection be made for the purpose aforesaid in their Respective Congregations — considerable Objections being made to this proposal the Motion was withdrawn

[**6.**] And another Motion made, it was,

Voted, that the Gentelmen the Overseer's of the Poor be desired to prepare a State of the destresses of the Poor in the Almshouse, and furnish a Copy thereof to the Ministers of the Gospel of all Denominations through the Town, requesting them to communicate the same to their respective Congregations the next Lords Day, and before the Congregations are dismissed, enforced with such Arguments, as to them shall Appear, most conducive to engage the Attention of the People to the same — also to inform them that a Committee of the Town will wait on them for Subscriptions in the Several Wards, on the next Tuesday the Amount of which will be discounted out of the Tax now laid, and that the Overseer's be furnished with attested Copies of this Vote for the Minister's also,

Voted, that the Committee of the Several Wards for procuring Subscriptions for the Almshouse, be desired to renew their applications, for that purpose, more particularly on Tuesday next, receiving the Subscriptions in Specie only, — And that the Town Clerk furnish the respective Chairmen with a Copy of this Vote

Adjourned to Thursday next being the 5th Day of July, 3. O.Clock in the Afternoon

[**7.**] Thursday the 5th of July, 3. O'Clock — Afternoon, Met according to Adjournment

The Committee appointed to consider of Ways and Means for procuring the Towns quota of Beef for the Supply of the Army, Agreeable to the Monthly Assessments by Order of the General Court, having made the necessary enquiry, find, that Mr. Phelps Superintendent of Purchases, will procure the whole quantity wanted by the Town upon the most Advantageous Terms, expecting only a small consideration for his trouble, and that he will engage that the Beef for the first Month shall not exceed forty Shillings Specie p hundred

Your Committee represent that Contracts might have been made for two three or Six Months, but as the Season Advances they think it probable Beef will become cheaper and preferable to employ M^r^. Phelps to make the Monthly purchases upon the lowest possible terms, one great Advantage of this Mode, is M^r^. Phelps can give the Town a few Weeks to Collect the Money, besides which no difficulty can arise as to the quantity none can be turn'd in that M^r^. Phelps can make an Objection to, himself being the purchaser

The means of payment your Committee suppose can only be dirived from a hard Money Tax, which they recommend should be added to the tax now essuing — the whole Sum Necessary [**8.**] to be raised is about £2400 — in Specie — Six hundred Pounds of which to be collected in ten Days after the delivery of the Tickets, and then paid immediately into the hands of the Treasurer or a Committee for the special purpose; said Money to be paid to M^r^. Phelps or his order to enable him to go on with his purchases; the other Eighteen hundred pounds to be Collected and paid into the Hands of the Treasurer or said Committee on or before the first Day of October next for the purpose all which is submitted

Thomas Walley p Order

The foregoing Report having been read and considered — the Question was put Viz^t^. — Whether the same shall be accepted — Passed in the Affermative also

Voted, that the Sum of Twenty four hundred pounds in Specie be immediately raised by a tax on the Polls and rateable Estates of the Inhabitants of this Towns, Tax Six hundred pounds part thereof to be paid into the Treasurey, within ten Days after the delivery of the Tickets and the remaining Eighteen hundred pounds to be Collected and paid into the Treasurey by the first Day of October next, the whole of said Monies, to be Appropriated for procuring the Town Quota of Beef for the Use of the Continental Army

[**9.**] Voted, that Allen Otis Esq^r^.
Stephen Higginson Esq^r^.
M^r^. Thomas Walley
Charles Miller Esq^r^.
John Rowe Esq^r^.

be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to Contract with Oliver Phelps Esq^r^. for the live Beef wanted by the Town Agreable to the Report of the Committee relative to procuring Beef

On a Motion Voted, that the consideration of the Article in the Warrant relative to raising Men be referred to the Adjournment

The Committee for raising the Towns proportion of Men for the Continental Army. — Reported verbally. That they had proceeded, so far in raising Men as that but forty One Men are now wanting to compleat this Towns Quota — whereupon

Voted, that said Committee be desired to continue their good services, till the further Orders of the Town

Moved and Voted, that, the Town Clerk Advertize the business of the intended —Adjournment

Voted, that this Meeting be Adjourned to Monday next. 3. O'Clock Afternoon

[10.] July 9th. 3. O Clock Afternoon Met according to Adjournment

The Assessors having been desired to give their Attendance at this Meeting, they Attended accordingly

The Moderator then acquainted them that the Town would wish to be informed how soon the Tax Bills for the present Tax, were like to come out

The Assessors having taken some time to consider the Matter, acquainted the Town, that it would not be much short of Six Weeks

On a Motion Voted, that the Vote passed the 5th. of July Instant, laying a Tax of Twenty four hundred pounds Specie be reconsidered and set Aside — And that the Sum of Three thousand Pounds in Specie be immediately raised by a Tax on the Polls and rateable Estates of the Inhabitants of this Town, Seven hundred and fifty Pounds part thereof to be paid into the Treasurey within Ten Days After the Delivery of the Tickets, and the remaining twenty two hundred and fifty Pounds to be Collected and paid into the Treasurey by the first Day of October next, the whole of said Monies to be appropriated for procuring the Towns Quota of Beef for the use of the Continental Army — And that no Person **[11.]** shall be entitled to the five per cent Allowed by the Vote Passed the 31st of March last who does not pay the first part of the above Tax in the Time limitted in this Vote; and that this Sum be Added to the Tax now issuing, and that the same be placed in distinct Columns on the Tickets to be delivered to the Inhabitants

Whereas by a Report of a Committee appointed to form an Estimate of the Sum necessary for the Expencies of the Current Year, it was Voted June 12th. that the Sum of Nine Thousand Pounds should be raised, the Tax to be made in Gold and Silver and paid in Specie or an equivalent in Bills of the new Emission at the rate of depreciation affixed by Judges Scale at the time of the Tax being issued

And whereas by a late Act of the General Assembly of this Commonwealth, the former Act impowering the Judges of the Supreme Judicial Court to regulate the depreciation of the Paper Currency is repealed, and no such Scale of Depreciation is likely to take place — therefore

Voted, that the several paragraphs, in the said Report relating to the Sum to be raised, and the Scale of depreciation by which the same was to be paid, be and hereby are repealed and made Void

[12.] Voted, that the Sum of Twelve Thousand Pounds be raised by a Tax on the Polls, and rateable Estates of the Inhabitants of this Town, for defreying the necessary Expences for the Year ensuing — And that the Tax be made in Gold or Silver, and paid in Specie or Bills of this State of the new Emission at the rate of one and seven Eighths of the new Emission for one hard Dollar, and that the same be appropriated as mentioned in the Report of said Committee

The Committee Appointed to Contract with Mr. Phelps for live

Beef Reported a Letter they had wrote to him a Copy of which is on file

Voted, that when this Meeting is Adjourned, it shall be to next Monday being the 16th of July Inst: 3 O'Clock Afternoon

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned to that time

Monday the 16th. Day of July 3. O'Clock, Afternoon — Met according to Adjournment

Mr. Treasurer Jeffries appeard, and desired the Town would give him their Opinion with respect to these two Questions Vizt.

1st. Is the Town Treasurer to receive of the Old *Continental Bills*, of the Collectors for payment of Taxes yet remaining due of the Two £250,000, [**13.**] — or £500,000 — Voted, to be raised July and October 1780

2d. Is the Town Treasurer to receive of the Collectors any Other than Bills of the *New Emission* for what is due from them of the £9000 — Tax of said new Emission, Voted, December last for payment of the 2d. Quota of Beef — After some debate the Question was put. Vizt. — Whether it be the Sense of the Town that the Town Treasurer should take the Act of the General Assembly passed the 6. of July Inst for his rule of Conduct relative to the Questions proposed — Passed in the Affermative

On a Motion Voted, that a Committee be now appointed, to consider and Report what they shall Judge to be a suitable allowance to the Town Treasurer for past services

Voted, that the Committee last appointed to consider a suitable allowance to the School Masters Vizt.

Nathaniel Appleton Esqr.
Mr. John Lowell

be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

On a Motion Voted, that the Town do now reconsider and set aside the Vote passed giving the Town Treasurer their Opinion on the Questions proposed by him at this Meeting

On a Motion, Voted, that all matters and things which remain unfinished at this Meeting be referred for consideration to the next Town Meeting

[**14.**] Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby are given to Mr. Thomas Walley for his good services as Moderator of this Meeting —

Then the Meeting was dessolved

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, duly qualified, and legally warned in publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Thursday the 16 Day of August Anno Domini 1781 3. OClock. P.M.

Warrant for calling the Meeting read

The Inhabitants were desired to withdraw, and bring in their Votes for a Moderator of this Meeting and the same being brought in and sorted, it appeared, that

Thomas Dawes Esqr.

was chosen

The Article in the Warrant Vizt. "Then and there agreable to the request of a Number of the Inhabitants, to devise some effectual and speedy method of raising Money for the payment of the four Months Quota of Beef for the Continental Army, already become due — was read, and after some debate had thereon — It was moved; that the Assessors be desired to attend at this Meeting, they accordingly Attended, and being Asked [**15.**] Whether the Tax Books were ready to be delivered the Collectors of Taxes — Answered — "That by the latter end of the next Week, the Tax Books will be compleated"

It was then moved and Voted, that a Committee be now Appointed, to hire One hundred Pounds, which is now wanted to discharge a draught of Mr. Phelps, for Beef purchased to that Amount

It was moved and Voted, the foregoing Vote, be reconsidered and that the Collectors of Taxes be desired to apply immediately to the Inhabitants, and urge their advancing their Beef Tax in order to discharge Mr. Phelps draught for the Beef he has procured for the Town, for which they are by a Vote passed the ninth Day of July last, to have five per cent deducted from their respective Taxes for the Sum so advanced — the Collectors to give Receipts accordingly and the Money received by them to be paid into the Town Treasury

The Article in the Warrant Vizt. "To consider what is necessary to be done for procuring the Towns proportion of Clothing for the Continental Army" — was read whereupon it was moved and carried, that a Committee be now Appointed to take this Article into consideration, and Report their Opinion thereon at the Adjournment of this Meeting

[**16.**] Voted, that The Moderator
Samuel Allen Otis Esqr.
Samuel Barret Esqr.
Mr. Nathaniel Barret
Mr. Daniel Bell
be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

The Article in the Warrant. Vizt. To determine what Allowances shall be made the School Masters" — was read, whereupon

Voted, that Nathaniel Appleton Esqr.
Mr. John Lowell be
a Committee before appointed to consider what may be adequate Grants to the School Masters, be desired to make Report at the Adjournment

The Article in the Warrant Vizt. — "To consider what steps shall be taken for the better security of the Town in the Night Season" was read, whereupon

Voted, that the consideration of this Matter be referred to the Adjournment — reconsidered

The Moderator Colo. Daws having informed the Town "that he had obtained a Return of the Men now in the Continental Army" it was moved and Voted, that the Selectmen be desired to imploy a Suitable Person to arange, said Returns, that it may clearly appear, and be determined what proportion of Men this Town has procured for the Continental Army

[**17.**] The Committee Appointed to consider and Report an allowance to be made the Town Treasurer for his Services for the Year 1780 — Reported the following Vote which was accepted by the Town — Viz^t^.

Voted, that David Jeffries Esq^r^. be allowed in consideration of extra services, and high prices of the Necessaries of Life Two hundred and twenty pounds Specie for his Services as Treasurer of this City [*sic*] for the Year 1780

It was moved & Voted, that the aforegoing Vote respecting the Watchmen be reconsidered, and that a Committee be now appointed to take this matter into consideration, and Report thereon at the Adjournment of this Meeting

Voted, that the Gentelmen the Selectmen be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

It was moved, that when this Meeting is Adjourned it shall be to Wednesday next being the 22^d^. of August Instant at 3. O'Clock Afternoon then to meet at this place

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

Wednesday August 22^d^ 3. O Clock Afternoon — Met according to Adjournment

[**18.**] Col^o^. Daws in the Chair — The Selectmen being a Committee to take up the Matter in the Notification relating to the Town Watch do Report.

That the State of the Town Treasurey being at present such that Money cannot be Obtained for paying the Watchmen, therefore in order to preserve the safety of the Town in the Night, that the Captain of each Military Company be desired to select out of each Military Ward two discreat Persons to do duty for one Night, and so on every Night in rotation, that one third of the Company so appointed take care of the South part of the Town, one third the Middle part of the Town, and the Other third, the North part of the Town, this to continue till the Treasury is in a better State or untill the Town or the Selectmen shall otherwise Order p John Scollay Chairman

The foregoing Report having been read & debate had thereon, it was moved & Voted, that the further consideration of this matter subside for the present

The Towns Committee to devise means for procuring the Quota of Shirts Shoes, &c for the Army — Report

That there is plenty of Material for that purpose in Town which may probably be had upon a credet. And that some suitable Person be appointed to purchase the Articles [**19.**] upon the longest Credit and best terms possible; and that a hard Money Tax be laid to fulfill the Contracts as Soon as may be

Samuel Otis
p Order

The foregoing Report having been read, and considered, the Question was put Viz^t^: — Whether the same shall be accepted — Passed in the Affermative, whereupon, Voted, that

Samuel Allen Otis Esq^r^.
M^r^. Nathaniel Barret
M^r^. Daniel Bell

be a Committee to procure those Articles Agreeable to the foregoing Reports, and when done to lay their Accounts before the Selectmen in order to obtain their Draughts upon the Treasury, for Payment — also

Voted, that the Sum of One Thousand Pounds, in Gold or Silver be raised by a Tax upon the Polls & Rateable Estates of the Inhabitants of this Town. and that the same be paid into the Town Treasurey, and Appropriated for discharging the Accounts of the Several Articles of Clothing procured as aforesaid

The Report of the Committee relative to the Town Watch again taken up. and after considerable debate had thereon, it was Moved &

Voted, that the Selectmen be directed to proceed in the Old way of hiring suitable Persons to compose the Town Watch, the Town not accepting the said Report

[**20.**] The Committee Appointed to consider and Report what Allowances should be made the School Masters are of Opinion

That considering the high prices of Provisions, Fuel &c — They be allowed for the next three Months, commencing from the last Grant made them, to the first Day of September next, double the Sum in Specie granted them respectively in the Year 1774.

The foregoing Report having been read, and considered. — Question was put — Viz^{t}: Whether the same shall be accepted — Passed in the Affermative

Voted, that all Matters & things which remain unfinished at this Meeting be referred over to the next General Town Meeting, then to be acted upon

Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby are given to Thomas Daws Esq^{r}. for his good services as Moderator of this Meeting

Then the Meeting was dessolved.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders & other
Inhabitants of the Town of Boston in
publick Town Meeting Assembled at
Faneuil Hall being duly qualified
& legally warned; December [7.] 1781

[**21.**] Warrant for calling Meeting — read

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for a Moderator of this Meeting and the same being brought in and sorted, it appeared that

The Hon^{ble}: Samuel Adams Esq^{r}. was chosen

The Article in the Warrant. Viz^{t}: "To consider the Application of a Sister Town relative to the Fishery" — was read — whereupon Moved & Voted, that the Letter from the Town of Marblehead, be read, & it was accordingly read

It was then Moved, that a time be now Assigned for the consideration of said Letter from Marblehead. but another Motion being made and seconded, that the consideration of this matter subside for the present & that the Article relative to Grants be now taken up — the Question was put, & passed in the Affermative

The Article in the Warrant Viz^{t}: "To consider and grant such

Sums of Money, and in such manner as may be Judged needfull for the payment of the School Masters, for the Relief, of the Poor, and for defraying other necessary Charges; the Tax laid in March last, for said purposes having been collected almost wholy in Monies of the New Emmission, now out of circulation" was read — [**22.**] Whereupon it was moved & Voted, that a Committee be now appointed to take this Article into consideration, and to Report at the Adjournment of this Meeting: the Sum necessary to be raised for the purpose aforesaid.

Voted, that Edward Payne Esqr.
Mr. Joseph Barrel
Mr. Jonathan Mason Senr.
Stephen Higginson Esqr.
William Phillips Esqr.

be a Committee for said purpose, and that this Committee be Instructed to lay before the Town a List of the necessary charges of the Town

Moved & Voted, that the Letter from Marblehead, be again read — and the Letter being read accordingly

Voted, that a Committee be now appointed to take the Subject matter of this Letter into consideration, and Report at the Adjournment

Voted, that the Honble: Samuel Adams Esqr.
Perez Morton Esqr.
Samuel A. Otis Esqr.
Isaac Smith Esqr.
Joseph Barrel Esqr.

be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

The Article in the Warrant. Vizt. — "To consider and Act upon the Memorial of the Assessors, relative to Delinquent Classes and Individuals of each of those Classes — was read [**23.**] And Voted, that a Committee be now appointed to take the Memorial of the Assessors and the Papers accompanying the same into consideration, and Report at the Adjournment of this Meeting.

Voted, that Majr: Melville
Nathaniel Appleton Esqr.
Mr. Thomas Walley — excused
John Lucas Esqr.

to be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

Moved and Voted, that when this Meeting is Adjourned, it shall be to the Representatives Chamber — provided leave can be obtained for that purpose

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned to Tuesday the 11th Day of December Instant. 3. O'Clock in the Afternoon, then to meet at the Representatives Chamber

Tuesday the 11th Day of December 3. O Clock Afternoon, Met according to Adjournment

The Committee appointed to take the following Article in the Warrant into consideration — Vizt: "To consider and grant such Sums of Monies and in such manner as may be Judged needfull for the payment of the School Masters, for the relief of the Poor, and for defreying other necessary charges, the Tax laid in March last for said purpose, having been Collected almost wholly in Monies of the New Emission now out of Circulation" — Report

[**24.**] That having examined the Estimate on which they formed their Report in May last, and finding the Tax granted at that time, was to be paid in Bills of the New Emission which were soon after out of Circulation, and consequently no part of the Selectmens Draughts for the payment of Schoolmasters, and Other Servants of the Town, nor those of the Overseer's for the support of the Poor have been paid

The Committee are of Opinion that the Sum of Twelve Thousand Pounds lawfull Monie, or £22,500 in Bills of the new Emission, was Voted in May last to be raised by a Tax, and one third of said Sum to be appropriated to discharge part of the Debts due from the Town for Monies borrowed, which Tax being to be paid in Bills of the New Emission, and when received, the Whole will remain useless in the Treasurey Unless the Creditors of the Town will consent to receive their pay in those Bills at some rate that may be agreed on by a Committee appointed for that purpose

The Committee therefore propose to the consideration of the Town, whether they Will, at present raise a further Sum by a Tax to be appropriated towards the payment of part of those Debts, and let those Bills remain in the Treasury, untill Government shall make provision for their Redemption — or whether they will appoint a Committee to dispose of said Bills on the best terms that can be Obtained

[**25.**] The foregoing Report having been read and; after some debate had thereon (it was *moved* that a Committee be now appointed agreeable to said Report, to dispose of the Bills, of the New Emission Money, now in the Treasurey, for the most they can obtain — and the Question being Accordingly put — Passed in the Negative

It was then Moved, that the Monies above mentioned be disposed of for the payment of the Towns Debts — the Question being put — Passed in the Negative

It was also moved, that the first Vote negativing the disposing of said Monies as Reported by the Committee be reconsidered, and the Question being put — passed in the Negative

It was then

Voted, that the Sum of Six thousand Pounds, be raised by a Tax on the Polls and ratable Estates of the Inhabitants of this Town, for defreying the necessary Expences of the present Year

On a Motion, Voted, that a Committee be now Appointed, to waite upon his Excellency the Governor, to Acquaint him with the Apprehensions of the Inhabitants, of dangers from a Vessels laying near the Town, said to have several thousand barrels of Powder on board and praying his Excellency to take such Measures thereon, as he may apprehend the safety of the Town requires — also

Voted, that the Gentlemen the Selectmen be a Committee for that purpose

[**26.**] The Committee Appointed to take the Matter of the

Letter from the Town of Marblehead relative to the Fishery, into consideration Reported a set of Instructions to be given the Gentelmen who Represent this Town in the General Court — as also a sircular Letter to be forwarded by the Selectmen — And the Same having `been read — the Question was put. Vizᵗ. Whether the Town will now Instruct their Representatives relative to the Fishery, as recommended by the Committee, which passed in the Affermative

The Instructions Reported by the Committee being read and considered, the Question was put — Whether said *Instructions* be given to the Gentlemen who Represent the Town in the General Court — passed in the Affermative — The Instructions are as follows — Vizᵗ.

Gentlemen,

The brilliant successes which have attended the Allied Arms through the course of the proceeding Campaign, afords us the most flattering prospects that our Enemies (though hitherto Obstenate to a degree of infatuation) will soon sue for Peace. — In the conditions of that Peace, Your constituants feel themselves as deeply and immediately interested as any Part of the Powers at War; but from an equal desire to promote the general welfare of the Federal Republick, and the Safety & [27.] Happiness of this Commonwealth, they think it their duty to Open to you their Sentements on the importance of that Principle Branch of the Eastern Trade, the Fishery, and the Necessaty of confirming a rite to it by an express Article of the Treaty of Peace —— The present Decayed State of a Number of our Maritime Towns contrasted with their flourishing Situation previous to the present Contest, is a striking proof, not only of the Advantages of the Fishery to the commercial part of the Commonwealth, but the immediate ruin that follows the want of it; and if any of their Sister Towns can boast more eligible circumstances, their riches are derived from a source which is but temporary and will last only with the War —— The stagnation of the Fishery furnished us with means, for Cr using against the Enemy's property, and its to the astonishing Successes that have hitherto Attended that kind of enterprize that we owe the principle part of our present Trade — And though the Merchants of some of our Seaports have lately made considerable importations from the differant European Markets, yet `tis from a Source not more lasting than the Other, that they derive their Ability to do it. The introduction of Foreign Armies an Navies amongest us, has created great demands for our internal Supplies those Supplies have furnished our Merchants with exchange, and enabled them to make large remittances.

[28.] In Addition to which the Exportation of Gold and Silver, during the Paper currency, has constituted no inconsiderable part of the Ballance of our Trade. — But if it is Obvious to the Eye of every One, that these resources of our Wealth must inevitably fail with the War — And in a Time of Peace, like all Other Nations, we must depend only upon the Staple Commodities of our own Country, for the Support of our commerce — These commodities exclusive of the Fishery, will consist only of Lumber, and a small quantity of Inland Provisions. These Articles were never supposed more than Sufficient to ballance our West India Importations; for every European Article of consumption therefore (which was formerly paid for by our Fish and Oyl) the Trade must be in debt. How fast that debt will accumilate, & how long it will take to ruin the Trade, & impoverish the Country, may be seen by the calculations of the Merchants of this Town in the year 1769, by which it appears that upwards of Four hundred Vessells were constantly employed in the Fishery, and the Annual Profits of their Labour amounted to upwards of £160,000 Sterling; the whole of this was remitted to Great Britain for payment of the Merchandizes, Annually imported from that Island: — It therefore follows that without this Staple, we must either Content ourselves to forego the Use of all European commodities, or become meer carriers [**29.**] to the rest of the World; the former from habit is become impracticable; and the latter is too Mortifying to submit to, and to inconsiderable in its prospects to be considered as an Equivalent.

It is hence also easey to conceive (though we Apprehend needless to urge) of how vast an importance the preservation of this Trade is to every Other part of the Commonwealth — The various Mechanicks, necessarily employed in the building, rigging and fitting out such a Number of Vessels, must without it be destitute of Subsistance; And the great quantities of provisions, expended by our Fishermen, and the Timber made use of in Building the Vessells, together with the Staves, Hoops, &c. made use of in the exportation of the Fish & Oyl, will convince us, that the loss of the Fishery must essentially affect our inland Brethren; And without urging the more remote Argument, that the wealth & Strength of every Nation depends on the prosperity, and increase of its commerce it is evident, that the vast debt we have found it necessary to contract in the present War, together with all the publick Taxes we may hereafter be Oblidged to raise, on the failure of the Trade, or in proportion to its dimenution, must Inevitably fall on the Landed Interest — And when they consider, what a great Part of the Publick Taxes is paid by the Mercantile Towns, and that the Country are in a great Measure enabled to pay their proportion of them by vending their produce in the Sea Ports, it is clear, that upon the depopulation of the Maritime, and the additional [**30.**] Weight of Taxes on the Country Towns, which must follow the loss of our Trade, the Burthen will be to them Intolerable — But the reasons need not be local For though the Inhabitants of the other States are not so immediately affected by the loss of the Fishery, yet we conceive it not less important to the whole Confederacey, than to us, in its political Consequences. — Their future rank among the Nations of the Earth will depend on their Naval Strength; & if they mean to be a Commercial People, it behoves them to be Able at all times to protect their Commerce; — The means by which they can procure that protection & Naval Strength, is to give incouragement to that kind of Trade among themselves, which will best serve as a Nursery for Seamen.

The importance of the Fishery in this view is obvious from the valuable acquisitions made in the beginning of the War by our Privateers, seven eighths of which where manned from this source: — And though from this circumstance our Enemies, Open and Secreat, have endeavoured to allarm the Other States of the Union with an Idea, that the possession of the Fishery will give a dangerous Supperiority of Strength to the Eastern States. & so have Attempted to disunit us in the claim of it; yet we are confident, their wicked designs must prove abortive, when 'tis considered that (if we were disposed to be a faithless and a treacherous People) [**31.**] Our Necessities for the Use of the Southern commodities, and the Advantages we shall derive thereby a Circuitous Trade from Their Ports to Foreign Markets, will forever make it the Interest of Eastern States to preserve the Confederation perpetual; and will always be a Security to the Southern States against the abuse of any Superiority of Strength which the Fishery may be supposed to give us. — Should it be said, that the Right we claim, is a Right Common to all Nations, and that we shall therefore be intitled to the use of it, whether it is made an express Article of Treaty or not: — We answer, that it can injure no Power to confirm our Natural rights by express Acknowledgement, if they honestly intend we shall enjoy them; and if they decline making this Acknowledgment, it is a just cause of suspicion that their intentions are not honest. — But we know the Haughty Kingdom with whome we are at War; and her annalls furnish us with instances of her Sovereigns claiming by solemn Acts the Empire of the Seas, and setting bounds to Other Independant Nations in the Use of that element, to which by the Laws of Nature, they had an equal Title. And France herself (now the greatest Naval Power upon Earth) has found it necessary to be admitted by Treaty to the participation of that very right for which we now contend. — And why should we imagine That Great Britain will be more tender of the Natural rights of the United States, than she has been of those of Other Nations, who were [**32.**] Infinately better Able to resist her unlawfull Claims upon the Ocean. — On the contrary, have we not every reason to expect, that her Resentment, heightened by disappointment will induse her to revenge her Self on the States, as soon as a Convenient Oppertunity presents its self; & unless this Rite is guaranteed to us by the Negotiating Powers she will undoubtedly make this the Cause of her Quarrel: and the Instant she Attacks on this Pretence, the whole Confederacy must be involved in a War: - - For the Fishery having been uninteruptedly enjoyed by our Ancestors from Time immemorial & secured to them by Charter, in an Ancient Priviledge, & one of those Liberties, for the security of which, that firm league of Friendship was enter'd into by the Thirteen States, so clearly Stipulated in the Third Article of their Confederation. — It is therefore the duty, Seconded by the clearest interest of every State within the Federal Union, to have this right explicitly Acknowledged in the Treaty of Peace, as the only means of securing to themselves a lasting & a Happy one — From these Considerations, Gentleman, we instruct &

direct you, in the Approaching Sessions of the Legislature of this Commonwealth to move for & to use your influance to procure an Application to Congress, that they would give positive Instructions to their Commissioners for negotiating a Peace, to [**33.**] make the right of the United States to the Fishery an Indispensible Article of the Treaty.

The Town took into consideration the Circular Letter Reported by the foregoing Committee, whereupon

Voted, that a Circular Letter be sent by the Town as recommended by said Committee — also

Voted, that the Selectmen be requested to transmit the Letter that shall be agreed on, to the Maritime Towns in this Commonwealth also

Voted, that the Circular Letter Reported by the Committee aforesaid be recommitted, said Committee to make Report again at the Adjournment

The Committee to consider the Memorial of the Assessors, relative to Delinquint Classes Reported verbally — That in their Judgement it would not be expedient for the Town to take any measures respecting this Matter

The Question was put. Whether the foregoing Report be agreeable to the Town — passed in the affermative.

A Letter from John Bradford Esq^r. relative to the Men he had procured for the Continental Army, and praying relief of the Town, from part of the burden he has born in consequence of his Iill [*sic*] State of Health — was read — whereupon

[**34.**] Voted, that a Committee be appointed to consider said Letter, and Report what they apprehend proper to be done thereon

Voted, that Col^o. Davis [Daws?]
Caleb Davis Esq^r.
M^r. Thomas Walley
be a Committee for that purpose

on a Motion Voted, that a Committee be appointed to prepare and present a Complimentary Address to the Hon^ble: Major General the Marquis De la Fayette — in the Name of the Town

Voted, that the Hon^ble: Samuel Adams Esq^r. Mod^r.
Stephen Higginson Esq^r.
Samuel Barret Esq^r.
be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

Adjourned to Fryday next 3. O'Clock Afternoon, to meet at Representatives Chamber

Fryday the 14^th Day of December 3 O'Clock. P.M: met According to Adjournment

The Committee appointed to prepare and present an Address to the Hon^ble: Major General the Marquis de la Fayette to express the most cordial esteem and affection of the Inhabitants for the Marquis — Reported that they had presented to him the following Address Viz^t.

To the Honourable Major General the Marquis de la Fayette

[**35.**] Sir

We have the honor of waiting upon you in the Name & by the

Directions of the Inhabitants of Boston in Town Meeting Assembled in Faneiul Hall to express their Sentiments of Joy on your safe return to this Metropolis

We Assure you from them, that they Still bear in their Minds a greatfull Remembrance of the early disinterested and decided Part you took with Americans while they were resisting *alone*, the Hand of British Tyrany

Your Sacrifice of domestick Enjoyment to the Cause of God & Humanity — Your generous Exertions in a foreign Country, in Support of that Cause; & the Success which has crowned those exertions, so dangerous to your own Person, have in the Opinion of the Town, added a Lustur to your exalted Rank, and give *you* a Name and a Place in the first Lists of American Patriots & Heroes

It is with Regret that they have been made acquainted that your Present Viset must be short: But though your Residence in the Town, would have afforded them an unspeakable Satisfaction, they will acquiesce in your Departure, from the Regard that they owe to their Country; being fully persuaded that *your* presence in Europe at a critical Conjecture, will give you the Oppertunity of rendering most substantial Service to the *joint* interest of France & the United States

[**36.**] The Inhabitants most fervently pray the Almighty God to take you under His Protection — to guard you from Danger in your Voyage, and to give you an happy Meeting with your Family, your private Conections and your Native Country: Assuring themselves that you will there be embraced with every Sentiment of Gratitude and Affection, and receive the approbation of the King your Sovereign — Boston December 14th 1781

To which the *Marquis* returned the following Answer

Gentlemen

The past Obligations I have been under to the Inhabitants of this Capital, and the New Favour they now confer upon me, have impressed my Heart with the most lively Sense of Attachment and Gratitude.

To have been Admitted among you from an early Period, in the Defence of the Cause of Liberty will forever be the happiest Circumstance in my Life. But it becomes more particularly so, when it is so kindly remembered by those who first began the Noble Contest, and who have ever since been so conspicuous in its Support

Nothing could induce me to leave this Continent even for a short Period, before I had the Satisfaction to see my Friends in this Town — Be pleased Gentelmen to Accept my most respectfull Acknowledgements to your [**37.**] good Wishes. The Height of my Ambition would be, and particularly to gratify those Affectionate Sentiments which forever devote me to this Metropolis.

LA FAYETTE

On a Motion, Voted, that the Town Clerk be directed to publish the aforegoing Address & Reply in the several News Papers

The Committee to prepare a Circular Letter Reported a draught of one, which was considered paragraph by paragraph, and the Question was then put Viz. — Whether this Letter shall be adopted by the Town as a Circular Letter to the Maritime Towns in this Commonwealth — Passed in the Affermative

Voted, that the Selectmen be directed to procure printed Copies of said Letters, & forward the same to the Maritime Towns, Agreeable to a former Vote.

The following is the Circular Letter Reported by the Committee — Viz^{t}.

Gentlemen

The Inhabitants of the Town of *Boston*, legally Assembled, have taken into consideration a matter which they conceive all the other Maritime Towns, in this & the Neighbouring States are equalley, and some of them more nearly interested then thay. It is the Subject of the [38.] *Fishery*, and the great importance of a Common right therein being secured to the United States, whenever a Treaty of Peace shall be concluded. To flatter ourselves with so happy a Prospect, so far as to neglect the necessary preperations for another vigorous campaign, would indeed be unbecoming the Wisdom of Americans; & yet so important has been the Success of the Allied Arms, the last year, that it would Seem to be madness in extreem for Britain any longer to persist in her unrighteous claims. But Wisdom has forsakin her Counsels

We ought to presume, that the Supreme Representatives of these States will have an equal regard in so momentous a Crisis to the rights of each individual. We would not Suggest the contrary. But may it not be supposed, that Persons whose situation is remote from the Fishery, & who derive Advantages from it in its more distant effects and not directly perceivable, are probably not so attentive to its unspeakable importance, as others who are immediately concerned, & depend upon it as the only Source of their Commerce and even their Subsistence, If this Should be the fact, would not States so immediately interested in the Fishery as ours, be justly criminated by the Others, if we should neglect Seasonably to lay before them our own sense of the necessaty of an express Article in a Treaty of Peace for its security; Should we not be wanting to ourselves [39.] in a most essential Point, and be chargeable by all Posterity, with the Sacrifising our & their invaluable Rights, by unpardonable carelessness; Such is the Sentiment of this Town. And though we would be far from obtruding this or any Sentiment of Ours upon Others, we cannot but think Ourselves justifiable in candidly recommending it to their Serious deliberation

This Town have judged it necessary to instruct their Representatives in the General Court on the Subject, the Instructions are inclosed. Many other & cogent reasons might have been urged, and will undoubtedly be made use of by you, if you Should think it proper to take the matter into your Consideration. Should we be so fortunate as to have your full concurrance in Opinion with us, we assure ourselves that we shall be equally fortunate in the Aid we shall receive from your concurrent exertions. —

In the Name and by Order of the Town of Boston in Meeting legally Assembled December the 14th. 1781

WILLIAM COOPER Town Clerk

A Letter from M^r^. Hunt Master of the South Grammer School, relative to the pay he had received as Schoolmaster was read, whereupon

Voted, that a Committee be Appointed to take this Letter into consideration [**40.**] Also the similar circumstances of the Other School Masters, and to Report thereon at the Adjournment

Voted, that Ebenezer Hancock Esq^r^.
Nathaniel Appleton Esq^r^.
John Lucas

be a Committee for that purpose

Moved & Voted, that an Additional Instruction be given the Above named Committee; to take into consideration the similar Circumstances of other Servants of the Town who have Salaries Assigned them

On a Motion Voted, that a Committee be appointed to take into consideration the present arangement of the publick Schools in the Town; and to Report what further improvements — may be made thereon, as soon as may be — also.

Voted, that the Hon^ble^. Samuel Adams Esq^r^.
John Lowell Esq^r^.
Nathaniel Appleton Esq^r^.
Samuel Barret Esq^r^.
Robert T. Payne Esq^r^.

be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

The Petition of the Assessors, "that the Town would Vote them such pay, for their services as may appear fitt — was read — whereupon

Voted, that Ebenezer Hancock Esq^r^.
Nathaniel Appleton Esq^r^.
John Lucas Esq^r^.

be a Committee to take this Petition into consideration [**41.**] and Report thereon as soon as may be

The Committee relative to North Battery, Reported, the Appraisement that had been made of said Estate in August last pursuant to the order of the Town, whereupon

Voted, that the Selectmen be and hereby are directed & impowered to proceed in disposing of the Estate called North Battery, for such a Sum as may appear to them to be for the interest of the Town, and if Money is not to be obtained, then upon a Credit not exceeding twelve months with good security and Interest, and the said Selectmen are impowered to give a Deed of Bargain & Sale to the Purchaser or Purchasers in the Name of the Town.

Moved & Voted, that a Committee be appointed to consult with M^r^. Hodgden the Commissary of Military Stores as to the best place to remove the Powder Ship to, and to request his doing it as soon as may be — also

Voted, that John Brown Esq^r^.
M^r^. Thomas Walley
Stephen Higginson Esq^r^.
Hon^ble^: Caleb Davis Esq^r^.
M^r^. Samuel Whitwell

be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

The Article in the Warrant Vizt.

"To consider what steps Shall be taken to prevent damage to the Common by the passing of Carriages" — was read whereupon

[42.] Voted. that the Selectmen be directed to make the usual Repairs as Soon as may be

The Article in the Warrant Vizt. "To consider what Repairs shall be given those Streets, where the Pavements are much damaged" — was read — whereupon — Voted, that a Committee be appointed to take these Articles into consideration, and to Report at March Meeting and that this Committee be desired and impowered to make Application to the General Court, for their help & Assistance in giving necessary Repairs to said Streets — also

Voted, that John Lowell Esqr.
Colo. Daws
Robert Treat Payne Esqr.
Colo. Hitchbourne Esqr.
Caleb Davis Esqr.
be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

The Article in the Warrant Vizt. "To consider what further Steps shall be taken relative to the Town Watch, was read — whereupon

Voted, that the Town Treasurer be directed to answer the Selectmens Draughts for Such an amount of the Bills of the New Emission Money, as may be sufficient for the Support of the Watch, and that the Money thus draughted, be appropriated for that purpose.

[43.] On a Motion Voted, that when this Meeting be Adjourned, it shall be to Monday the 24th Instant 3. O.Clock P: M: to meet in this Place

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

Monday December 24th. 3. O.'Clock Afternoon — Met according to Adjournment

Mr. Adams in the Chair

The Committee appointed to consider the request of the Schoolmasters, Assessors and other Servants of the Town at their Meeting the 14th December 1781

Report, That the Treasurer settle with the Assessors, Schoolmasters, and also with the Other Servants of the Town who have Salaries Assigned them by the Town, giving them credit for the Specie value of their several payments made them according to the Scale of Depreciation, and Report their several Balances to the Town as Soon as may be

EBENEZER HANCOCK p Order

The foregoing Report having been read and considered; on a Motion made

Voted, that the Report of the Committee be reconsidered, and that the Committee be instructed to enquire and Ascertain what losses the Schoolmasters may have sustained by the depreciation of the Paper Money [44.] comparing the Salaries received from year to year, with the Grants made them in 1774 — the Committee to have no respect to any Sums granted to the Schoolmasters on Account of the high prices of the Necessaries of Life.

On a Motion, Voted, that

Mr. John Sweetser
Mr. John Lowell

be added to the Committee relative to School-Masters.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the Representation of John Bradford Esqr., Report as follows

Whereas it appears that John Bradford Esqr. was included in Six Classes for furnishing Six Men for the Continental Army, for three years, or during the War, and by his Iill State of health was necessarily prevented from attending so closely to the buissness as otherwise he would in consequence of which he was a Second Time Classed in *nine* Classes, and thereby has received great loss and damage, however he has now perfected the Business, and the Nine Men are procured by him and gone forward. Therefore in order to releive Mr. Bradford from part of the Burden he has been in consequence of his Iill State of health aforesaid, and as he has fully complied with the Requisition, it is unanimously the Opinion of the Committee that John Bradford Esqr. [**45.**] have a Grant made him upon the Town Treasurey for the Sum of Sixty Pounds Specie

Thomas Daws p Order

The foregoing Report having been read and considered. — the Question was put Vizt. Whether the same shall be accepted — Passed in the negative

Moved and Voted, that the Selectmen draw on the Town Treasurer for the Services of the Assessors in 1781 — at nine Shillings, p Day, for every Day they shall attend

On a Motion, Voted, that a Committee be appointed to consider of proper and suitable Allowances to the Publick Schoolmasters for Six Months, commencing from the first of September last

Voted, that Ebenezer Hancock Esqr.
Nathaniel Appleton Esqr.
John Lucas Esqr.
Mr. John Sweetser
Mr. John Lowell

be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid.

On a Motion, Voted, that the Vote which passed at a late Town Meeting respecting the pay of the Town Watch be reconsidered, and that the Town Treasurer be and he hereby is Authorized and directed to make Sale of so much of the Bills of the New Emission Money, now in his hands, or that may hereafter come into his hands as in the Judgement of the Selectmen shall be Sufficient for the payment of the Town Watch

[**46.**] Adjourned to Monday fortnight being the 7th of January next 3. O.'Clock Afternoon, then to meet at this Place

Monday the 7th. Day of January 1782. 3. O'Clock Afternoon, met according to Adjournment

The Committee relative to the publick Schoolmasters Reported in writing the Statings of what Mr. Hunt one of the Schoolmasters, had received in Monies, or should receive in order to take the Opinion of the Town — the same having been read, and debate had thereon, it was — Voted, that the aforementioned Committee Credet Mr. Samuel Hunt the Master of the South Grammer School the Sum of Seven hundred and thirty-five Pounds, being from June 1776 to September 1781 — and the Several Writing Masters in that proportion — also

Voted, that said Committee make the Schoolmasters chargable with the Specie value of the several Draughts made them by the Selectmen, agreable to the Votes of the Town, at the time they received payment for the Same, and that the Committee aforesaid Liquidate Accounts and Report again to the Town

On a Motion Voted, that the Committee appointed by the Town to liquidate Accounts in the Town Treasurer's Books have regard to the [47.] Scale of Depreciation affixed by the General Court of this Commonwealth

The Committee Appointed to consider of proper allowances for the Schoolmaster's for Six Months commencing from the first of September last Reported, whereupon

Voted, that the sum of One hundred Pounds be allowed and paid unto Mr. Samuel Hunt for his Salary as Master of the South Grammer School for Six Months

Voted, that the sum of One hundred Pounds be allowed and paid unto Mr. Nathan Davis, for his Salary as Master of the North Grammer School for Six Months, the same to be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due, and to commence from the first of September last

Voted, that the sum of Ninety pounds be allowed and paid unto Mr. James Carter, for his Salary as Master of the Writing School in Queen Street for Six Months, the same to be paid him quarterly as it shall become due and to commence from the first of September last

Voted, that the Sum of Ninety Pounds, be allowed and paid unto Mr. James [*sic*] Tileston for his Salary as Master of the North Writing School for six Months the same to be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due [48.] and to commence from the first of September last

Voted, that the Sum of Ninety Pounds be allowed and paid unto Mr. John Vinal, for his Salary as Master of the Writing School in the Common for Six Months the same to be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due, and to commence from the first of September last

Voted, that the Sum of Fifty Pounds be allowed and paid unto Mr. William Croswell for his Sallary as Usher of the South Grammar School for Six Months, the same to be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due, and to commence from the first of September last

Voted, that Mr. John Tileston Master of the North Writing School be allowed for House Rent at the Rate of Forty Pounds ꝑ Annum, the same to commence the first of September last

Voted, that Mr. Nathan Davis Master of the North Grammer

School be allowed for House Rent at the rate of Forty Pounds p Annum the same to commence from the first of September last

Voted, that Mr. John Vinal Master of the Writing School in the Common be allowed for House Rent at the Rate of Forty [**49.**] Pounds p Annum the same to commence from the first of September last

Moved, that a Committee be now Appointed to raise by Subscription three hundred Dollars, for the purpose of procuring two Men for three years or during the War, to compleat this Towns Quota of Men for the Continental Army, the same to be paid into the hands of Colonel Procter for said purpose, and that the Town Treasurer give his Notes for the Sums borrowed, payable out of the present Tax.

The Question being accordingly put — Passed in the Affermative

Voted, that Colo. Melville
Mr. Thomas Whalley
John Lucas Esqr.
be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

On a Motion, Voted, that the several Notes given by the Town Treasurer to the Assessors for services by them rendered the Town in Seventeen hundred and Eighty, shall carry lawfull Interest from the date of the Selectmens Draughts

Moved and Voted, that all Matters and Things which shall remaine unfinished at this Meeting be referred over to the next General Town Meeting

Voted, that the thanks of the Town be and hereby are given to the Honble : Samuel Adams Esqr. Moderator of this Meeting

Then the Meeting was dissolved

[**50.**] At a Meeting of the Freeholder's and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified & legally warned in publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneiul Hall on Monday the 5th. Day of March Anno Domini 1781 [1782]

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read

John Brown Esqr.
was chosen Moderator of this Meeting

The Committee appointed by the Town the 6th. of March last to apply to a proper Gentleman to deliver an Oration the 5th. of March Instant to perpetuate the Memory of the horred Massacre perpetrated on the Evening of the 5th. of March 1770, by a Party of Soldiers under the Command of Capt. Thomas Preston of the 29th. Regiment

Reported — That having met several Times for the purpose mentioned in the Town Vote, they have unanimously made Choice of Mr. George Richards Minot to deliver an Oration on the 5th of March Inst. who had accordingly Accepted of that service

The foregoing Report having been made the Question was put Vizt. Whether the same shall be accepted — Passed in the Affermative

[**51.**] Upon the Motion, the Town took into consideration, what would be the best time to have the Oration pronounced, as also what place would be most suitable for the purpose whereupon

Voted, that the Oration be delivered, at the Old Brick Meeting House the Hall not being capacious enough to receive the Inhabitants, that Attend upon the Occasion

Voted, that Ebenezer Hancock Esq^r.
Nathaniel Barber Esq^r.
John Brown Esq^r.

be a Committee to wait upon M^r. George Richards Minot, and acquaint him, that it is the desire of the Town, that the Oration may be delivered at the Old Brick Meeting House at half past 12. O'Clock this Day as also to ask leave of the Committee of said Church for the use of that Building

On a Motion Voted, that the Selectmen be directed to order the severall Bells in the Town to be tolled from one quarter of an Hour After nine O'Clock this Evening untill 10: O Clock

Adjourned to the Old Brick Meeting House, half past 12. O'Clock

The Town met at the Old Brick Meeting House half past 12. O'Clock according to Adjournment

[**52.**] The Committee appointed to wait upon M^r. George Richard Minot, to acquaint him with the Vote, of the Town, respecting the time and place for the delivery of an Oration — Reported

That said Gentleman was ready to comply with the Order of the Town

An Oration to commemorate the horred Massacre of the 5^th. of March 1770 — and to impress upon the Minds of the Citizens, the ruineous tendency of standing Armies being placed in Free and Populous Cities &c was delivered by M^r. George Richards Minot to a large and crowded Assembly and received by them with great Applause

On a Motion made, Voted, that

John Brown Esq^r. Moderator
Nathan Frazier Esq^r.
William Cooper Esq^r.
John Lucas Esq^r.
Josiah Waters Jun^r. Esq^r.
John Scollay Esq^r.
Ezekiel Price Esq^r.

be and hereby are Appointed a Committee to wait upon M^r. George Richards Minot and in the Name of the Town to Thank him for the spirited and elegant Oration delivered by him at their request, in commemoration of the horred Massacre perpetrated on the Evening of the 5^th. of March 1770 by a Party of Soldiers of the 29^th. Regiment under [**53.**] the Command of Cap^t. Thomas Preston, and to request of him a Copy thereof for the Press

On a Motion made Voted, that
John Brown Esqr. — Moderator
Mr. George Richards Minot
Capt. Elias Parkman
Thomas Daws Esqr.
Capt. William Mackay
be and hereby are appointed a Committee to Apply to a proper Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the 5th. of March next, to perpetuate the Memory of the horred Massacre, perpetrated on the Evening of the 5th. of March 1770 by a Party of Soldiers of the 29th Regiment under the Command of Capt. Thomas Preston; and to impress upon our Minds the ruineous tendency of Standing Armies being placed in free & Populous Cities in a time of peace; and the necessity of such noble exertions in all future times, as the Inhabitants of the Town then made, whereby the designs of the Conspierators Against the publick Peace, may be still frustrated

a Petition of Mr. Robert Patterson setting forth, "that he received a wound in his Right Arm on the 5th. of March 1770. by a Shot from Prestons Party, whereby he has entirely lost the use of it; and that since the death of Mr. Monk he is the only one of the unhappy number then badly wounded, that survive," and therefore praying the Charity of the Town — was read, whereupon

[54.] Voted, that a Collection be made at the close of this Meeting, for the said unhappy Sufferer, and Boxes were placed at each Door to receive the Collections

The Collection made for the said Mr. Patterson, amounted to the Sum of

Then the Meeting was dessolved

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned, in publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneiul Hall on Monday the 11th. Day of March Anno Domini 1782.

Prayer was made by the Revd. Dr. Cooper

Warrant for calling the Meeting read,

Sundry Laws enjoined to be read at this Meeting, were accordingly, read

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for a Moderator of this Meeting, and the same being brought in and sorted it appeared that

[55.] The Honble. Samuel Adams Esqr. was chosen Moderator

William Cooper was chosen Town Clerk for the Year ensuing, and took the Oath of Office for the faithfull discharge of his Duty which Oath was Administred by Mr. Justice Price

The Town having determined by a Vote to choose seven Selectmen, the Inhabitants were then directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for that number, and the same being brought in and sorted, it appeared that the following Gentlemen — Vizt.
John Scollay Esqr.

Capt. Gustavus Fellows
Harbottle Dorr Esqr.
Nathan Frazier Esqr.
Ezekiel Price Esqr.
Capt. William Mackay

were chose Selectmen for the year ensuing unanimously

The Inhabitants as directed by the Moderator, brought in their Votes for twelve Overseers of the Poor and upon sorting them it appeared, that

The Honble. William Phillips Esqr.
Isaac Smith Esqr.
Mr. Jonathan Mason
Capt. Samuel Partridge
Mr. Samuel Whitwell
Mr. John White
[56.] Edward Proctor Esqr.
William Powell Esqr.
John Sweetser Esqr.
Samuel Barret Esqr.
Mr. Nicholas Bowes
Joseph Webb Esqr.

were chose Overseers of the Poor for the Year ensuing

David Jeffries Esqr. Town Treasurer having sent into the Town in Writing his resignation of said Office — The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for a Town Treasurer, and the same being brought in and sorted, it appeared, that

Mr. Peter Boyer

was chosen Town Treasurer for the ensuing Year

On a Motion, Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby are given unto David Jeffries Esqr. for his good and faithfull services as Treasurer of this Town for Thirty One Years successively

The Inhabitants brought in their Votes, for a County Treasurer, and the Same being Sealed up in Town Meeting, were delivered to Constable Smith, to be by him returned to the Court of General Sessions of the Peace at their next Meeting

Moved & Voted, that the Inhabitants [57.] prepare a List of Substantial Men for Constables to be brought in at the Adjournment of this Meeting in the Afternoon

Moved & Voted, that in consideration of the inclemency of the Weather this Meeting when Adjourned, shall be to the Representatives Chamber

Adjourned to three O'Clock Afternoon to meet at the Representatives Chamber

3. O'Clock P: M: Met according to Adjournment

On a Motion made the Question was put Vizt: Whether Collectors of Taxes shall be chose sepperate from Constables — Passed in the Affermative

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for a Committee of Correspondence Inspection and Safety

— And the same being brought in and Sorted, it appeared, that,

Nathaniel Barber Esqr.
Edward Proctor Esqr.
Capt. John Pulling
Ebenezer Hancock Esqr.
Capt. Isaac Phillips
Samuel Ruggles Esqr.
Thomas Melvill Esqr.
Jonathan Mason Junr. Esqr.
Edward Greene Esqr.

[**58.**] were chose a Committee of Correspondence &c for the Year ensuing

The Town brought in their Votes for Sixteen Fire Wards, and the same having been sorted, it appeared, that

John Scollay Esqr.
William Cooper Esqr.
Francis Shaw Esqr.
Edward Proctor Esqr.
Capt. John Pulling
Caleb Davis Esqr.
Ebenezer Hancock Esqr.
Mr. Thomas Tileston
Andrew Syms Esqr.
Capt. Gustavus Fellows
Joseph Webb Esqr.
Capt. John Ballard
Mr. John Winthrop
Mr. John Lowell
Major Thomas Melvill Esqr.
Jabez Hatch Esqr.

were chosen Fire Wards for the ensuing Year

The Article in the Warrant Vizt. "To consider the Request of a great Number of the Inhabitants that they have the Use of Faneuiel Hall to be entertained with Mr. Templemans Exhibitions" was read, and after longe debate, the Question was put. Vizt. Whether it be the Mind of the Town that agreeable to the request aforesaid Mr. Templeman may have the use of Faneuil Hall for his Exhibitions — [**59.**] a doubt arising with respect to the Number of hands in faviour of the request and against it; a Motion was made that the Petitioners have leave to withdraw their Petition, which passed in the Affermative

A Motion for the choice of Collectors at this time did not obtain

The following Persons were chose Clerks of the Market for the Year ensuing Vizt:

Messrs: Narborah Frazier
Joseph Head
Nathaniel Jarvis
Daniel Biggelow
Samuel Conant Junr:
Thomas Carter
Benjamin Colman

Joseph Foster
Samuel Amory
Joseph Whiting
John Welch Jun^{r}.

Moved & Voted, that when this Meeting be Adjourned, it be to to Morrow Morning 10. O'Clock

Moved and carried, that to Morrow 11. O Clock be assigned for the choice of Assessors

Moved & Voted, that the choice of Constables be Assigned over to to Morrow 10. O Clock Forenoon

[60.] Major Edward Carnes
M^{r}. William M^{c}Neil

were chose Surveyors of Hemp for the Year ensuing

Mess^{rs}: Benjamin Page
John Stimpson
Joseph Ayres
Jonathan Stodder
Edmund Ranger
William Moor
Abraham Howard
Clement Collins Jun^{r}.
Samuel Fenno
William Todd
Uriah Norcross
James Rogers
Daniel Brown
Joseph Butler
John Stutson
Joseph Ballard
Abijah Crane
John Dyer
John Bell
John Arnold
Benjamin White
Joseph Payson
Thomas Uran
John Presson
John Bulfinch

were chose Surveyors of Boards for the Year ensuing

Mess^{rs}: Samuel Todd
William Clough
[61.] Jonathan Stodder
Joseph Daniels
Israel Loring

were chose Fence Viewers for the Year ensuing

Mess^{rs}; Isaac Bird
Joseph Hayden
John Fenno Jun^{r}:
Samuel Bangs
Nathan Green

were chose Sealers of Leather for the Year ensuing

M^{r}. Adam Colson
was chosen Informer of Deer for the Year ensuing
Mess^{rs}: Robert Hitchburne
John Owen
John M^{c}Elroy
Manassah Masters
Thomas Barber
Joshua Pico
Samuel Hayley
Cap^{t}. David Spear
Lemuel Gardner
John Lambert
Joseph Loring
Daniel Bell
were chose Cullers of Staves for the ensuing Year
Mess^{rs}: Jeremiah Russel
Henry Plimpton
Edward Jones
William Sharp
were chose Hogreeves for the year ensuing
[62.] Mess^{rs}: George Hamlin
Samuel Curtis
were chose Haywards for the ensuing Year

	Ward
Mess^{rs}. Nathaniel Baker Jun^{r}. - - - -	No. 1
Cap^{t}. John Lambert - - - - - - -	2
Joseph Prince - - - - - - -	3
John Cogswell - - - - - - -	4
Samuel Sumner - - - - - -	5
Jeremiah Bumsted - - - - -	6
Ephraim Copeland - - - - -	7
John Kennedy - - - - - - -	8
Zipheon Thayer - - - - - -	9
Joseph Shed - - - - - - -	10
George Langley - - - - - -	11
Henry Bass - - - - - - - -	12

were chose Scavingers for the following or ensuing year
Mess^{rs}: John Skinner
Thomas Green
were chosen Assay Masters for the year ensuing
Voted, that Major Thomas Melville Esq^{r}.
M^{r}. Thomas Walley
Hon^{ble}: Caleb Davis Esq^{r}.
M^{r}. Hermon Brimmer
Josiah Waters Esq^{r}
M^{r}. John Lowell
be and hereby are appointed a Committee to Audit the Accompts of M^{r}. Peter Boyer Treasurer, and also the Accompts of the Overseers of the Poor; and the said Committee are impowered when they shall Audit said Accompts, to allow such of the Overseers, as shall have [63.] Advanced Monies for the Relief of the Poor; Interest on all such Sums from the time so advanced, untill they shall have Audited said Accompts; and they are also desired

to Report from time to time a State of the Treasurey, respecting its debts and credits and on any matters that they may think proper and the Committee are also directed to examine the Draughts of the Selectmen

The Selectmen
were chose Surveyers of the High Ways for the Year ensuing
Messrs : John White
John Sweetser Esqr.
John Lucas Esqr.
were chose Purchasers of Grain for the Year ensuing, and they are desired and impowered to give all needfull directions to the Keeper of the Granary, respecting the quantities of Grain to be Sold, and affixing the prices thereof from time to time as occasion shall require; and the said Committee are desired & directed to cause all the Grain belonging to the Town to be ground at the New Mills near the Mill Bridge

John Tudor Esqr.
William Kettle
Edward Tuckerman
Ebenezer Tory
Samuel Brown
were chose Surveyers of Wheat & Flour for the year ensuing

[**64.**] The Petition of Mr. Paul Farmer relative to his Taxes was read, whereupon

Voted, that Nathanel Appleton Esqr.
Ebenezer Hancock Esqr.
John Lucas Esqr. — excused
John Preston
be a Committee to take the Same into consideration, and Report at the Adjournment

The Petition of Capt. Amasa Davis, respecting Monies due to him from the Town, was read, whereupon

Voted, that Nathl. Appleton Esqr.
Ebenezer Hancock Esqr.
John Preston
be a Committee to consider the Petition and Report at the Adjournment

The Article in the Warrant. Vizt. "To consider what steps shall be taken for settling with the Board of War their demands on the Town for Small Arms &c" was read — whereupon

Voted, that Capt. Isaac Phillips
Major Thomas Melville Esqr.
Mr. Elisha Sigorney
be a Committee to make enquirey relative to Small Arms which by a Resolve of Court passed May 6. 1777 the Board of War were directed, to deliver to the Selectmen, who were made accountable for the Same; also what is [**65.**] become of the Cartridges delivered the Military Officers of this Town, and make Report as soon as may be

Moved and Voted, that a former Committee to purchase Small Arms be called upon; to Report at the Adjournment of this Meeting

Adjourned to Tuesday next being the 12th Instant 10. O'Clock in the Forenoon, then to meet at the Representatives Chamber

Tuesday 3 O'Clock in the Afternoon met at the Representatives Chamber

On a Motion made

Voted, that a Committee be now appointed to made enquiry, whether the Gentlemen chosen Town Treasurer have usually given Bond for the faithfull discharge of their Trust

Voted, that Mr. Samuel Whitwell
Harbottle Dorr Esqr.
Capt. William Mackay
be a Committee for this purpose to Report as Soon as may be

Moved and Voted, that there be one more added to the Surveyers of Boards, and Things —

[66.] Mr. John Ballard Junr.
was chosen a Surveyer of Boards for the Year ensuing

This being the time Assigned for the choice of Constables, the Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for twelve Constables, and the same being brought in and sorted, it appeared, that

Mr. Josiah Simpson
was chosen

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for eleven Constables for the Year ensuing — and the Votes being brought in and sorted, it appeared, that only four Constables were chosen — Vizt.

Messrs: Alexander McLeod
Samuel Whitney
Elisha Byles
Samuel Smith

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for seven Constables; and the same being brought in and sorted, it appeared, that only one was chosen Vizt.

Mr. John Gray — excused

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for six Constables; and the same being brought in & sorted, it Appeared that

[67.] Messrs: James Kirkwood - - - - - - excused
Thomas Grant - - - - - - excused
John Tuffts - - - - - - - sworn
John Magner - - - - - - excused
John Dinsdell - - - - - - excused
William Patten - - - - - - sworn
were chose Constables for the Year ensuing

Moved & Voted, that one more Person be chosen into the Office of Surveyers of Boards,

Mr. Henry Blaisdel
was chosen a Surveyer of Boards, and Shingles, for the Year ensuing

Moved & Voted, that the Town will now proceed to the choice of Seven Assessors

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for Seven Assessors, and the same being brought in & Sorted, it appeared, that

Mess^{rs}. William Lowder
Moses May
John R. Sigorney
John Pulling
Barth^{o}. Kneeland
William Fleet
Samuel Ruggles Esq^{r}.

were chose Assessors for the ensuing Year

Cap^{t}. Kirkwood chosen into the Office of a Constable for the Year ensuing, attended and [**68.**] informed the Town, that being bound to Sea, he desired he might be excused from serving in that Office, and he was accordingly excused

Voted, that the Town will now come to the choice of a Constable

Moved and carried that the foregoing Vote be reconsidered

Moved and Voted, that a Committee be now Appointed to take into consideration what measures it will be proper for the Town to take relative to the outstanding Taxes in the new Emission Money; and whether it will be necessary to raise any further Sum for defreying the Expences of the present year, and the Sum they Apprehend should be raised for that purpose

Voted, that John Brown Esq^{r}.
Hon^{ble}: Caleb Davis Esq^{r}.
M^{r}. Joseph Barrel

be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid to Report as soon as may be

A Motion was made that the consideration of Salaries and Grants be referred over to May Meeting — and the Question being put — Passed in the Negative

It was then moved and Voted, that Grants be now made the Several School Masters for their Salaries, for Six Months [**69.**] commencing from the 1^{t}: of March Instant

Voted, that the Sum of One hundred Pounds be allowed and paid unto M^{r}. Samuel Hunt for his salary as Master of the South Grammer School for Six Months, commencing from the first of March Instant, the same to be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due

Voted, that the Sum of One hundred Pounds be allowed and paid unto M^{r}. Nathan Davis for his Salary as Master of the North Grammer School for Six Months commencing from the 1^{t}. March Ins^{t}: the same to be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due

Adjourned to 3. O'Clock Afternoon

3. O'Clock Afternoon met according to Adjournment

M^{r}. John Green

was chosen a Clerk of the Market for the Year ensuing

The Selectmen Reported, on the Visitation of the Schools the last year, and were Appointed Visitors for the Schools the present Year —

The Committee Appointed to make enquiry whether it had been usual for the [**70.**] Town Treasurer to give Bond, for the faithfull discharge of their trust in that Office

Reported, that the late Treasurer David Jeffries when first chosen into that Office, give Bond to the Selectmen in 1750 in the penal Sum of £10,000 —— whereupon

Voted, that Mr. Peter Boyer who has been chosen Treasurer of this Town give Bonds with Surities, in the Sum of two Thousand Pounds for the faithfull discharge of his trust — also

Voted, that the said Treasurer be Notified of the choice the Town had made of him for Treasurer, and desired to give his Attendance at this Meeting

The Treasurer Attended accordingly and was informed that the Town had made choice of him as their Treasurer, and had Voted, that he must give Bond with Sureties in the Sum of two Thousand Pounds, for his fidelity in that Office

Voted, that the Sum of Ninety five Pounds be allowed and paid unto Mr. James Carter, for his Salary as Master of the Writing School in Queen Street for six Months the same to be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due and to commence from the first of March Instant

[**71.**] Voted, that the Sum of Ninety five Pounds be allowed and paid unto Mr. James [*sic*] Tileston for his Salary as Master of the North Writing School for Six Months the same to be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due, and to commence from the first of March Inst:

Voted, that the Sum of Ninety Five Pounds be allowed and paid unto Mr. John Vinal for his Salary as Master of the Writing School in the Common for six Months the same to be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due, and to commence from the first of March Inst:

Voted, that the Sum of Fifty Pounds be allowed and paid unto Mr. William Croswell for his Salary as Usher of the South Grammer School for Six Months the same to be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due, and to commence from the first of March Instant

Voted, that Mr. John Tileston Master of the North Writing School be allowed for six Months House Rent the Sum of Twenty Pounds, the same to be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due, and to commence from the first of March Instant

Voted, that Mr. Nathan Davis Master of the North Grammer be allowed & paid for Six Months House Rent the Sum of twenty Pounds, the same to be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due and to commence from the first of March Instant

[**72.**] Voted, that Mr. John Vinall Master of the Writing School in the Common be allowed and paid for six Months House Rent the Sum of Twenty Pounds the same to be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due and to commence from the first of March Instant

Moved and Voted, that one or more Persons be Added to the Committee, appointed to consider whether they can be a new arangement of the Publick Schools for the Advantage of the Town

Voted that the Hon^{ble}: Oliver Wendell Esq^{r}. be Added to said Committee

Moved that the Minds of the Inhabitants be taken whether the Town Treasurer shall be paid by a Commission on the Money, passing through his hands — and the Question being accordingly put — Passed in the Negative — whereupon

Voted, that M^{r}. Peter Boyer be allowed and paid the Sum of One hundred Pounds for Six Months, services as Treasurer the same to be paid him as it shall become due

The Committee appointed to consider what is proper to be done with respect to what is due upon the Tax which was to be paid in the New Emission Money at one & seven eights, Reported as their Opinion — that no new Emission Money be received into the [73.] Town Treasury. After the tenth Day of April next, and all that may then be due shall be paid in Specie, so far as may be due on Account of the Town Tax

That the Sum of One Thousand Pounds be Assessed on the Inhabitants and appropriated for the Repairs of the Streets, as the Streets are in a ruineous Condition and daly growing worse and the Town has been complained of and are liable to be prosecuted by the Grand Jury for this omission

The foregoing Report having been read and considered, the Question was put. Viz^{t} — Whether the same shall be accepted — Passed in the Affermative — also

Voted, that agreeable to the Above Report, the Sum of One Thousand Pounds in Silver & Gold be raised by a Tax upon the Polls and rateable Estates of the Inhabitants of this Town; and that the same be paid into the Town Treasurey and appropriated for the Repairs of the Streets in this Town now in a ruinous condition

Moved and Voted, that the Consideration of what Sum of Money may be necessary to be Raised for the Expences of the present year ensuing, be referred over to the Annual Town Meeting in May Next

[74.] The Article in the Warrant Viz^{t}. "To consider what Measures shall be adopted for the immediate procuring the Towns proportion of Men for the Continental Army, Agreeable to a late Resolve of the General Court — was read — whereupon

Voted, that a Committee of thirty Six Persons be now appointed. three of whom are to be chosen out of each Ward. who are to Assist the Assessors in carrying the Resolve of the General Court for raising this Towns proportion of Men for the Continental Army into execution

	Ward.
Voted, that Cap^{t}. Thomas Adams - - - - - -	1
Cap^{t}. William Brown	
M^{r}. William Fowle	
Cap^{t}. Elias Parkman - - - - - - - - -	2
M^{r}. Benjamin Burt	
M^{r}. Alden Bass	
M^{r}. John White - - - - - - - - - - -	3
M^{r}. Josiah Eliot	

	Ward.
M^{r}. Grant Webster	
Col^{o}. Nathaniel Barber	4th.
Col^{o}. Andrew Syms	
M^{r}. Samuel Parkman	
Jonathan Williams Esq^{r}.	5th.
Cap^{t}. William Mackey	
Cap^{t}. Josiah Waters	
M^{r}. Benjamin Jepson	6th.
Cap^{t}. Samuel Barret	
M^{r}. John Lowell excused	
Cap^{t}. William Bell	
[75.] Cap^{t}. Job Prince Sen^{r}.	N^{o}. 7.
M^{r}. Timothy Newell	
Cap^{t}. Isaac Phillips	
Cap^{t}. John Simpkins	8
Cap^{t}. John Langdon	
D^{r}. John Loring	
Isaac Sears Esq^{r}.	9
M^{r}. Jonathan Mason	
M^{r}. John Andrews	
Col^{o}. Joseph Webb	10
M^{r}. John Read	
Cap^{t}. Eleazer Johnson	
M^{r}. Joseph Peirce	11
M^{r}. John Tileston	
Col^{o}. Thomas Dawes excused	
Cap^{t}. Nehemiah Soames	
Arnold Wells Esq^{r}.	12
M^{r}. Ebenezer Dorr	
M^{r}. Henry Bass	

were appointed a Committee for the purpose aforesaid
also Voted, that

Col^{o}. Josiah Waters	excused
John Lucas Esq^{r}.	
Major Thomas Melvill	
Cap^{t}. Alexander Hodgen	excused
Cap^{t}. Sarson Belcher	excused
M^{r}. Edward Green	excused
Col^{o}. Joseph Webb	declines
Col^{o}. Edward Procter	

be and hereby are appointed a Committee for Opening a Rendezvous for this Towns proportion of Men for the Continental Army

[76.] All but Two of the Above Committee have declined serving & been excused it was moved & Voted, that a Committee be now chosen to apply to proper Persons, & Report a List suitable for filling up said Committee

Voted, that John Lucas Esq^{r}.
Col^{o}. Waters
Maj^{r}. Melville
be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

Moved & Voted, that the Committee for raising Men have an adequate & generious allowance

The Article in the Warrant relative to the South Writing School having been again read

Voted, that a Committee be appointed to prepare an Estimate of the Charge of building a Suitable School House

Voted, that Colo. Daws
Mr. Samuel Dyer
Mr. John Preston
be a Committee for said purpose

Voted, that the Assessors be and hereby are empowered and directed to set for such Abatements of Taxes as they shall Judge reasonable ten Days next following the date and delivery of the Tax Bills (Lords Days excepted) & no longer saving that they be allowed to set two Days, the Last Week in Febuary for the Abatements of the Taxes of Such Persons as had not an Oppertunity of applying in the above limitted [77.] time, by reason of their being out of the Commonwealth, or any other unavoidable hindrance, at which time they are also allowed & impowered to Abate the Taxes of such Persons as may have died Insolvent before the said time

Moved and Voted that the Committee Appointed to bring in an Estimate of the Charge of Building a new School house be desired to consider that of mending the Windows in Faneuil Hall, and placing the —— Seats where they formerly Stood and to Report at the Adjournment

Voted, that when this Meeting be Adjourn'd, it shall be to Fryday next. 3. O Clock in the Afternoon, then to Meet in this place

Fryday March 15th. 1782. 3. O Clock Afternoon, — Met according to Adjournment

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes, for Twelve Wardens. but before the Inhabitants had brought in their Votes a Motion was made and carried, that the choice of Wardens be deferred till the Meeting is fuller

Moved, that if the Collectors of Taxes for years past produce to the Selectmen Certificates from the several Treasurers that they have paid all the Taxes, into the Treasurey which had been committed to them to Collect of the Inhabitants except the two last Taxes, they shall be eligable to a New choice

And the Question being accordingly put — Passed in the Affermative

[78.] Moved and Voted, that the foregoing Vote be reconsidered, and that no Collector have any new Tax Books committed to them, unless they produce Receipts from the several Treasurers, for the discharge of all Taxes (except the last) and Such Sums as in the Judgement of the Selectmen could not be recovered or received

The Committee appointed to bring in an Estimate of the charge of mending the Windows in Faneuil Hall & placing the Seats as they formerly stood

Reported as their Opinion that the said Hall might be put in as good Repair as it was formerly for the Sum of Two hundred pounds, they also Laid before the Town an Estimate of the Charge of the Several Articles of Repairs

John Rowe Esq^{r}. having in this Meeting generously offered to the Town a Box of Glass for the Repairs of the Publick Buildings

Voted, unanimousley that this Donation be accepted, and that the thanks of the Town be and hereby are given him for the Same

Moved and Voted, that the Selectmen be directed to take orders for the Repairs of Fanuiel Hall, and putting the same in its former State

The Committee appointed to prepare an Estimate of the Charge of building a Suitable School House

[79.] Reported, that a School House suitable for the accommodation of the Youth of the South part of the Town, may be built for the Sum of £300 — as also a Plan of such a Building, whereupon it was moved, that the Report be accepted, and that the Sum of Three hundred pounds be appropriated for the building a School House for the accommodation of the Youth of the Southerly part of the Town and that the Selectmen be directed to take Order thereon — and the Question being accordingly put — Passed in the Affermative

Voted, that the Sum of Five hundred Pounds in Silver & Gold be raised by a Tax upon the Polls and Rateable Estates of the Inhabitants of this Town, & that the same be paid into the Town Treasurey, and appropriated for the Repairs of Fanuiel Hall; and the Building a New School-house

The Inhabitants were directed by the Moderator to withdraw and bring in their Votes for twelve Wardens; but before the Inhabitants withdrew a Motion was made — that the Town first determine whether they Will choose Wardens the present year or not; & the Question after longe Dèbate being accordingly put — Passed in the Affermative

Moved & Voted, that the Inhabitants be desired to come prepared with Votes for the choice of Wardens at the Adjournment of this Meeting —

[80.] The Committee appointed to lay before the Town a List of suitable Persons to be Added to the Committee appointed to hire Men for the Continental Army; for the approbation of the Town, Reported a List — whereupon,

Voted, that Col^{o}. Josiah Waters Ju^{r}. Esq^{r}.
John Lucas Esq^{r}:
Cap^{t}: Alexander Hodgsdon

be added to the two Gentelmen before chosen on said Committee

Col^{o}. Waters having represented to the Town that the Committee for raising Men the last year had been greatley obstructed in their duty and the Town much injured by several of the Inhabitants engaging Men at a higher price than the Committee affixed, and then carrying them out of Town and selling them to other Towns; and that it would be well if any thing could be done to prevent so detremental a practice — whereuon

Voted, that Col^{o}. Thomas Daws
Hon^{ble}. Caleb Davis Esq^{r}.
Joseph Barrel Esq^{r}.

be a Committee to make enquiry and Report what they Apprehend may be done by the Town for preventing the like wild Practices for the future

John Magner one of the Persons chosen Constables for the ensuing year came into Meeting, and prayed the Town to excuse him from serving in that Office the present year — and the Question being put — Passed in the Negative

[**81.**] Mr. John Dinsdel another of the Persons chosen into the Office of a Constable, came into Meeting and desired the Town that he might be excused from serving as a Constable the Present year — and the Question being put — Passed in the Affermative

It was moved, that the choice of Collectors of Taxes be referred to the Adjournment — and the Question being put — Passed in the Affermative —

The Committee to whom Mr. Paul Farmers Petition was referred — Report

That the Overseers of the Poor make such addition to his Salary while Master of the Almshouse for his faculty as may afford him a suitable and decent support and also make him such allowances as they may think reasonable on Account of the Taxes, that he now owes or may have paid since he was in that Office

The foregoing Report as amended in this Meeting having been read — the Question was put — Whether the same shall be accepted — Passed in the Affermative

Edward Jones chosen into the Office of Hogreeve for the present year came into Meeting, and prayed that he might be excused from serving as a Hogreeve the present year — and the Question being put — Passed in the Affermative —

Moved & Voted, that the choice of another Hogreeve in the Room of Mr. Jones be referred to the Adjournment

[**82.**] John Gray chosen into the Office of Constable for the present year, came into Meeting and desired the Town to excuse him from serving as a Constable the ensuing year, and he was accordingly excused

Moved and Voted, that when this Meeting shall be Adjourned it shall be to Thursday the 21t. Instant 3. O. 'Clock then to meet at this place

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned to Thursday Next then to meet in this place

Thursday the 21t. of March 1782. 3. O.Clock P: M: Met according to Adjournment

Mr. Jacob Holland — sworn

was chosen a Hogreeve for the Year ensuing

The Committee to consider of Capt. Amasa Davis's Petition, and Report to the Town, having Reported accordingly the Town came into the following Vote as recommended by said Committee Vizt.

Whereas the Selectmen for the year 1774. passed an account of Capt. Amasa Davis Amounting to £53 : 11 : 3 and gave him a draft on the Town Treasurer for the said Sum and the said Treasurer not being in Cash discounted the Amount of said Draught by a Receipt dated November 8th. 1774. in favour of Mr. Edward Hollyday then one of the Collectors — and whereas said Davis is still possessed of said Receipt, and has [**83.**] never received any Part thereof though Often requested payment of said Hollyday — therefore — Resolved, that the Town Treasurer be and he hereby is impowered and directed to deliver Capt: Amasa Davis a Promissary Note in behalf of the Town for the Amount of said Receipt, together with Lawfull Interest thereon from the date thereof provided it shall appear that the same has not been paid, said Davis delivering up to the Treasurer the Receipt aforesaid

Moved, and Voted, that the Committee appointed Auditors of the Accompts of the Town Treasurer the last year be directed to proceed in Auditing and settling the Accompts of the late Treasurer David Jeffries Esqr.

On a Motion, Voted, that

Edward Payne Esqr.

be added to the above Committee

Moved that the Selectmen be directed to call upon the Delinquent Collectors or the Administrators of such of them as are deceased, in order for a Settlement of their respective Accounts — Vizt: Abraham Savage, Edward Hollydays Administrator, Benjamin Henderson, Benjamin Cudworth — Administrator, Benjamin Gray Administrator, and Josiah Torey, and in Case the Monies that may appear due from them respectively are not paid within three Months from this time the Town Treasurer is directed to put their Bonds in Suit [**84.**] And the Question being accordingly put — Passed in the Affermative

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for four Collectors of Taxes, and the same having been brought in and sorted, it appeared that

Francis Shaw Esqr.
Mr. Benjamin Sumner Junr.
Mr. Thomas Bayley
Mr. James Thompson

were chosen Collectors of Taxes for the Year ensuing

Voted, that two and one half p Cent, be and hereby is allowed to the Persons that shall be chose Collectors of Taxes for the year ensuing, on all such Sums of Money as they shall Collect. provided, that they shall conform to the Acts and Resolutions of the General Assembly and the Votes of this Town; which Premium appears to be Just and equitable and an ample allowance to the Collectors to encourage them to discharge their Duty with diligence and fidelity; provided also that each of said Collectors give Bond with sufficient Sureties to the Satisfaction of the Selectmen, for the faithfull discharge of their duty in said Office and complying with this Vote

[**85.**] Moved, and Voted, that the Collectors of Taxes be and hereby are enjoined to pay into the County and Town Treasuries in proportion as they shall pay into the State Treasury from time to time

John Magner chosen a Constable for the year insuing came into

Meeting and desired that he might be excused from serving in that Office for reasons offered the Town and he was accordingly excused

The Committee appointed by the Town of Boston at their last Meeting to consider what Steps are necessary to be taken touching such Persons who may be so lost to the Welfare of said Town as to Inlist Soldiers in said Town before the perticular Quota of said Town of Boston can be raised — beg leave to report

That they have considered of every kind of discouragement which the Town can lawfully give to Persons of the above discription: and recommend that all good Inhabitants of said Town would be perticularly watchfull of any Persons of the aforesaid discription and upon detecting any such Person in the Act of Inlisting Soldiers, in said Town for the use of other Towns before the Quota of said Town is raised, to give the name of such Person to the Selectmen of said Town in order that Measures may be taken which will correct such an abuse of the Inhabitants — all which is submitted

Thomas Daws p Order

The foregoing Report having been Read and considered the Question was put — Whether the same shall be accepted — Passed in the Affermative

[**86.**] This being the time Assigned for the choice of Wardens, it was Moved, "that the Vote passed at the late Meeting for now coming to the choice of Wardens for the ensuing year be reconsidered, and that no Wardens be now chosen for the present year" . . . before the Question was put it was Moved that the further consideration of this Motion be referred to May Meeting, but this Motion did not obtain — The other Motion was then considered, and after large debate the Question was put — but the Vote being scrupeled, a Poll was called for and the same being taken, it appeared that the Motion was carried by a large Majority

Voted, that when this Meeting is Adjourned, it shall be to Monday the first of April next 3. O.Clock Afternoon, then to meet at Faneiuel Hall

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

Monday April 1^{t}. 1782. 3. O.Clock Afternoon Met at Faneiuel Hall According to Adjournment

Hon^{ble}: Samuel Adams Esq^{r}. in the Chair

Thomas Grant chosen a Constable at the late Meeting, prayed the Town that he might be excused from serving in that Office the ensuing Year — and the Question being put — Passed in the Affermative.

M^{r}. Samuel Brown chosen a Surveyer of Wheat, was excused by the Town from serving in that Office the ensuing year

[**87.**] M^{r}. Edward V. Brown was chosen a Surveyer of Wheat for the Year ensuing

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for Six Constables. and the same being brought in and sorted, it appeared that

Messrs: William Rogers
John Ballard sworn
John McLane
Peter Geyer
Patrick Conner sworn
John Butterfield sworn
were chosen Constables for the ensuing Year

Moved that the Town Treasurer be and hereby is directed and impowered to allow the Overseers of the Poor, Interest on all Sums that has or may be advanced by them for the Support of the Almshouse as has been allowed by the General Court of this Commonwealth on their consoladated Securities

The Overseers of the Poor for the Town are sorrey to be under the disagreeable necessity of informing the Town of the unhappy situation of the Poor in the Almshouse for want of the Necessaries of Life — They have been without Bread ever since Last Tuesday, untill Saturday when only two hundred of hard Bread was procured for them, and this Day it will be all expended, and nothing but Water for them to Drink; owing to the want of Cash from the State and Town [**88.**] Treasurers, where large Sums are due that would enable them to procure those Necessaries, therefore your Memorialists would implore the Assistance of the Town. that the Collectors may be enjoined immediately to Collect the Taxes or in Lieue thereof Grain and Other Necessaries of Life for their relief — The Master of the Almshouse being greatley in debt already, for Beef and other Necessaries, and by means of his not having it in his Power to discharge the same is refused any further Credit — the consequences of which must be obvious to all — wherefor the Overseers in consequence of the trust reposed in them relying on the Justice, wisdom and humanity of the Town, are constrained to represent to them, the unhappy situation above represented not doubting but something effectual will be adopted by them, in behalf of the Overseers

Wm: Phillips Chairman

The foregoing Memorial having been read and duly considered — the following Votes were passed by the Town Vizt.

Voted, that such Sum or Sums of Money of the New Emission in the Treasurey, as the Overseers of the Poor may Judge necessary for the support of the Almshouse, be sold for that purpose.

Voted, that the Town Treasurer be and he hereby is empowered and directed upon application made to him by the Overseers of the Poor, therefore, to make sale of so much of said [**89.**] Bills as they shall Judge will be Sufficient for that purpose, upon the best terms they can

Moved, that a Tax of One Thousand Pounds be laid upon the Inhabitants for the use of the Almshouse, but the Motion after some debate, was withdrawn

To the Inhabitants of Boston in legal Town Meeting Assembled

Samuel Ruggles in behalf of the Estate of Edward Hollyday one of the late Collectors of Taxes for said Town Humbly sheweth

That in December 1773 the Sum of £2449 : 1 : 8 — was committed to said Edward Hollyday to Collect, the Tax bills were delivered by him in January 1774. between which time and the 19th. of April 1775 — (but little more than a year, he had Collected and paid to the Severall Collectors Treasurers more than three quarters of the whole Sum, notwithstanding the imbarrasments of the Town, occasioned by the Port Bill &c — immediately after said 19th of April the Inhabitants were thrown into the utmost confusion, the Injuries they suffered and the losses they sustained are too well known, and (by many) too keenly felt Need no recital. — they returned at different times in the Year 1776. and but few of them who owed the said Collector were at that time able to pay — Many still remain in reduced circumstances, some have died and some Joined the Enemy as will fully Appear, by examining the List herewith exhibited to the Town —

Your Memoralist prays the Town to take the above [**90.**] State of facts, into their wise and serious consideration and previous to suing the Bond make such allowances, or abatements, as the Town may think reasonable Samuel Ruggles

The foregoing Memorial having been read and considered by the Town — It was moved and carried that this Memorial with the Papers accompanying the same be committed

Voted, that Ebenezer Hancock Esqr.
Joseph Barrel Esqr.
Samuel Barret Esqr. (excused)
Edward Payne Esqr.

be a Committee to take up this matter & Report as soon as may be, what they Judge ought to be done thereon — also

Voted, that the Selectmen be directed to suspend putting the late Collector Hollydays Bonds in Suit untill the further Orders of the Town

On a Motion made Voted, that the Selectmen be directed to lay before the Committee Appointed for Auditing the Town Treasurers Accompts, such Sums as within their knowledge ought to be paid into the Town Treasurey

After some debate whether this Meeting should be dissolved or Adjourned, it was Voted, as the sense of the Town that their should be another Adjournment — and the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned, to Tuesday seven night 3. O.Clock P: M:

[**91.**] Tuesday the 9th. Day of April 1782. 3. O. Clock Afternoon — Met according to Adjournment —

Honble: Samuel Adams Esqr. in the Chair

The Persons chosen Constables at the late Meeting having been duly notified of the choice of the Town had made of them as Constables for the Year ensuing, and also required to qualify themselves as the Law directs — Constable Simpson acquainted the Inhabitants that said Persons were ready and intended taking the Oath of Office

The Committee appointed for Inlisting this Towns proportion of Men for the Continental Army — Reported to the Town — That they had Inlisted ten Men for the service — that they had received the full Sum of £45 . for 60 Classes — that 7 Classes have paid upwards of £40 — one Class £39 — and one Class £15 —

making in the whole Sixty nine Classes which have paid into the Committee

That they have met with many interruptions, through the management of such as wanted to procure and sell Men to the Towns in the Country; but were now in a fair Way of making such discoveries as will put a stop to such practises — and hope that by perseverance and an Attention to the buisiness laid upon them, they may be able to Answer the intentions of the Town in their appointment — that in their Opinion the raising the Bounty now given, will not have so good an effect, as continuing already to the Sum they have hitherto **[92.]** offered to such as would Inlist, and that those who incline to enter into the service when they hear that this Meeting is dissolved, it will quicken the Inlistments — whereupon

Voted, that this Report be accepted and that the Committee be desired to continue their good services in procuring this Towns proportion of Men for the Continental service

The Committee appointed for settling Accompts with the Board of War, being called upon to make Report; Acquainted the Town that they were not as yet able to make Report —

Moved and Voted, that Col°. Edward Proctor be requested to give out Orders to the respective Captains of the Companies of Militia in the Regiment under his Command, to make return of the Small Armes, received of the Board of War, for the use of such Men in his Regiment as were destitute of Arms, and not able to purchase for themselves, informing in whose hands they were placed, or what had become of them; as also of the Cartridges delivered out: the same to be laid before the Selectmen immediately — and that Col°. Proctor be served with a Copy of this Vote by the Town Clerk

Moved and Voted, that all things which remain unfinished at this Meeting be referred over to the general Town Meeting in May next, then to be considered and acted upon —

[93.] Moved and Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby are given to the Hon^{ble}: Samuel Adams Esq^{r}. the Moderator of this Meeting, for dispatching the Buisiness thereof

Then the Meeting was dissolved

At a Meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the Town of Boston of Twenty one years of Age & upwards, qualified as the Committee [*sic*] prescribes, and legally warned in publick Town Meeting Assembled at Fanuiel Hall on Monday the 1st Day of April Anno Domini 1782 —

Prayer was made by the Rev^{d}. M^{r}. Howard

Warrant for calling the Meeting read —

Paragraphs of the Constitution or form of Government, relative to the choice of Governor Lievetennant Governor and Six Senators for the County of Suffolk was also read.

On a Motion Voted, That the Town will now come to the choice of a Governor, Lievetennant Governor, and Six Senators, for the County of Suffolk.

It was then declared by the Selectmen that no Votes will be received but such as are unfolded, and that they propose the Poll shall be closed at One O Clock

[94.] It was then moved and Voted that the Bells in the Town be set a ringing at half past 12. O'Clock

Persons Voted, for as Governor with the number of Votes for each Person — Vizt.

His Excellency John Hancock Esqr.
Five hundred & ninety eight Votes

Persons Voted, for as Governor brought over

	Votes,
Honble : James Bowdoin Esqr.	7
Honble : Benjamin Lincoln Esqr.	1
Honble : Samuel Adams Esqr.	1

Persons Voted, for as Lievetenant Governor with the Number of Votes for each Person Vizt :—

	Votes
His Honor Thomas Cushing Esqr.	585
Honourable Azor Orne Esqr.	5
Honble : James Warren Esqr.	4
Nathaniel Tracy Esqr.	2
Capt. Elias Parkman	1

Persons Voted for as Senators for the County of Suffolk, with the Number of Votes for each Persons Vizt.

	Votes
Honbble : Samuel Adams Esqr.	580
Honble : John Pitts Esqr.	586
Honble : Jeremiah Powell Esqr.	592
Honble : Jabez Fisher Esqr.	592
Honble : Samuel Nyles Esqr.	355
Honble : Increase Sumner Esqr.	589
Honble : Cotton Tufts Esqr.	217
Honble : James Bowdoin Esqr.	1
[95.] Honble : Benjamin Austin Esqr.	1
Honble : William Phillips Esqr.	4
John Lowell Esqr.	1
Ebenezer Storer Esqr.	1
Honble : Caleb Davis Esqr.	1
Mr. Seth Sumner	1

Attested Copies of the Persons Voted for as Governor Lievetenant Governor & Senators for the County of Suffolk, were committed to the Secretary of this Commonwealth, and the Inclosure sealed up in Town Meeting Superscribed as follows — Vizt.

For

John Avery Junr. Esqr.
Secretary of the Commonwealth
of Massachusetts

The number of Votes of the Town of Boston for a Governor Lievetenant Governor and Six Senators for the County of Suffolk, Certified within and sealed up in Town Meeting

Then the Meeting was dissolved

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in publick Town Meeting Assembled on Tuesday. the 14th. Day of May Anno Domini — 10 O.'Clock — Forenoon

Prayer made by the Revd. Mr. Lothrop

Warrant for calling the Meeting read

[**96.**] That part of the Constitution or Form of Govornment which relates to the choice of Representatives read

Sundry Laws to be read at the May Meeting were accordingly read - - - - - - - - - - -

The Town having determined to choose Seven Persons to Represent them in the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to be held at the State House in Boston upon the last Wednesday of May Current, Agreeable to the Constitution or Frame of Government for the Massachusetts — The Inhabitants were accordingly directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for Seven Representatives, and then it was declared by the Selectmen that no Votes will be received, but such as are unfolded, and that they propose the Poll shall be closed at twelve O.Clock

The Votes being brought in for Seven Representatives, the Number of the same were found to be three hundred and thirty-five, but one of the Persons, Voted for, having three hundred and fifty Votes, which difference might have arisen from some of the Votes having been placed to Mr. Lowell which should have been put to Mr. Lovels, or to the Votes which had been given in, and received seperately, and not on one piece of Paper, which has been Often practised, and in such case prevents the Number of Voters from being exactly assertained — the Selectmen therefore according to their usual practise, declared the Number of Votes, to be three hundred & fifty [**97.**] and that the following Gentlemen were chose by a Majority of said Votes — Vizt.

	Votes.
Thomas Dawes Esqr.	332
John Lowell — Esqr.	350
Honble: James Lovell Esqr.	251
Stephen Higginson Esqr.	324
Leonard Jarvis Esqr.	204
John Rowe — Esqr.	213

After the above declaration made by the Selectmen; a number of the Inhabitants gave it as their Opinion that there was an irregularity, in the receiving and Collecting the Votes, and some mistake as to the Numbers placed to the Names of the Persons Voted for

It was therefore moved that the sense of the Inhabitants present might be taken, whether in their Opinion the Elections were valed — And the Question being accordingly put — Passed in the Negative

On a Motion made

Voted, that it is the sense of the Town that no Vote for a Representative be received but from such as shall enter Fanuiel Hall after giving in their Votes — also

Voted, that the Selectmen be directed to Notify the Inhabitants, of the intended Adjournment of this Meeting to Wednesday the fifteenth of May, Instant for the choice of Seven Persons to Represent this Town in the General Court of this Commonwealth the Year ensuing

Moved, that when this Meeting is Adjourned, it shall be to to Morrow ten O Clock in the forenoon, then to meet in this Place

[98.] And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned by the Selectmen

Wednesday the 15th. Day of May Instant 10. O'Clock in the Forenoon Town met according to Adjournment

The Town Clerk was called upon to read the Minutes of the transactions of the Meeting Yesterday, and they were accordingly read to the Inhabitants

A Motion was made & seconded that the Votes passed by the Town yesterday, that the Elections of Representatives was not valed — be reconsidered — After considerable debate, it was the sense of the Town, that the Question should not be put

The Selectmen having declared to the Town, that theire declaration of yesterday respecting the Number of Votes for Representatives was erronious, and that no choice was had — It was moved &

Voted, that the Town will now Assign a time for coming to the choice of Representatives

Voted, that the Town will come to the choice of Representatives at 3. O Clock

On a Motion Voted, that the Poll for Representatives be closed at. 4. O'Clock Afternoon

[99.] Adjourned to 3. O'Clock in the Afternoon

3. O'Clock, Town Met according to Adjournment

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for Seven Representatives, and then it was declared by the Selectmen, that no Votes will be received but such as are unfolded, and on one peice of Paper, and that such of the Inhabitants as give in their Votes at the Door must enter the Hall; and that they propose the Poll be closed at half past 4. O Clock.

The Votes, being brought in for Seven Representatives, the Number of the same were found to be three hundred & Thirty one; and upon sorting them it appeared that the following Persons were chose Vizt:

	Votes	
Thomas Daws Esqr.	321	
John Lowell Esqr.	316	
Samuel A. Otis Esqr.	200	
Leonard Jarvis Esqr.	291	excus'd
Stephen Higginson Esqr.	313	exc'd
John Rowe Esqr.	223	
Honble: James Lovell Esqr.	206	exc'd

The choice of Representatives being over and declared by the Selectmen, the Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for a Moderator of this Meeting in order that the Town may proceed in transacting the Other Affairs mentioned in the Warrant; accordingly the Inhabitants withdrew and brought in their Votes, and upon sorting them it appeared, that

[100.] The Hon^{ble}: Samuel Adams Esq^{r}. was chosen Moderator unanimously.

The Article in the Warrant. Viz^{t}. "To consider whether Instructions shall be given to the Representatives that may be chosen" — was read — whereupon the Question was put — Whether the Representatives shall be Instructed Passed in the Affirmative

Moved, "that a Committee be now appointed to prepare Instructions for our Representatives" — and the Question being put — Passed in the Affermative" — and the Question being put — Passed in the Negative

The Article of the Warrant, relative to the subject matter of a Report from the Committee to Audit the Treasurers Accompts & give in a State of the Treasury was read — whereupon said Committee give in the following Report

The Committee appointed to Audit the Town Treasurers Accompts Report as follows

That it appears by the Treasurers Books, there remains unpaid of the Towns Debts — Viz^{t}. due

		Currency	
to 30 Persons for Money borrowed before the Seige - - - - -	£6765		
To 42 Persons for Balances of Selectmen & Overseers Draughts - - - - - - - -	£1328		
to 273 d°. for Money borrowed from 1777 to 1780		£49762 [**101.**]	
to 23 Persons for money in New Emission		£1574	
to 122 d°. Ballances of Selectmen & Overseers Draughts to 171 bro^{t}. into Specie - - - - - - - - - - - -			£1214
to 125 d°. drawn for in Specie - - - - - - - - - -			2735

615

The exact amount of the debts in Specie cannot be ascertained as the date of the several Notes are not particularly specified in the Books, but an Estimate has been made, by which it appears the State of the Treasury, if all the Notes are entered is nearly as follows Viz^{t}.

To the Amount of Notes given before the seige with the Interest - - - - - - - - - - -	£10686 ,,15 ,, 7
To ditto since the seige with the Interest - - -	4638 ,, 4 ,, 7
To balances of Draughts before & since the seige	5100 ,, 0 ,, —
	£20,425———

To Premiums due to the Collectors and Abatements on the last Taxes, the Amount of which cannot be assertained as no settlement has been made with the Collectors since the Seige — therefore your Committee purpose to the Consideration of the Town as the Collectors received the Taxes before 1781 in Old Emmission Money, and paid great part of it into the Treasurey, after it ceased to be a Currency, whether they ought not to receive their Premeiums in the Same Money they paid into the Treasury where it now remains

To discharge the above debts, their appears to be due from the Collectors, the following Sums — Viz^{t}.

		Beef Tax	Specie	Total
From Francis Shaw on Acco^{t}. —				
$1\frac{7}{8}$ Tax - - - - - - - -	£1066	£630	1383	£3079
James Thompson - - - -	1163	310	1666	3139
Benjamin Sumner - - - -	512	503	1209	2224
Thomas Bayley - - - - -	629	165	1289	2074
		1608	- - -	10516

[**102.**] States Certificates & Interest New Emission Bills - - - - - - - 287——
In Bills of the old Emission - £38,000
of the New Emission - - - - 21,734

It appears by the Selectmens Accounts that they purchased large parcels of Clothing and other necessaries on Account of the Towns Quota of Supplies for the Army, part of which has been repaid, but there still remains due to the Town on Account of these Supplies in Specie about — £900

And for the support of the State Poor - - - in the Almshouse - - - - 1700 —

The Ballances due from other Collectors before the Seige are not bro^{t}: into this Estamate as its uncertain if any part will be recovered —

It likewise Appears that the Treasurer has paid Large Sums on Account of the War great part of which the Committee suppose is to be repaid out of the State Treasurey or deducted out of the Towns proportion of the State Tax, they therefore propose that a Committee be appointed to inquire into the Expenditure of this Money, & report what Appears to be due either from the State or those who received the following Sums out of the Treasurey, Amounting to upwards of Nine hundred Thousand Pounds Continental Money Viz^{t}.

Paid Col^{o}. Proctor for raising Men &^{c} - - - - -	£620	0	0
p Resolve of the General Court - - - -	358,958	0	0
Osgood & Phelps for first & Second Quota of Beef	515,569	0	0
John Simpkins for supplys to Soldiers Familys	24,720	0	0
[**103.**] for Horses for the use of the Army	11.200	0	0
Col^{o}. Hatch Bounty & Mileage - - - - - - -	6,068	0	0
Col^{o}. Crafts & Others for Shoes & Stockings -	7,595	0	0
Balance due to the Comm^{ee}. for purchasing Grain - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	1,024	0	0
	925, 134	0	0

Paid the aforementioned sums due from the "Collectors & the State Treasurer Amounting to £13,400 from which may be deducted £3,400 for the Prem^{e}. due to the Collectors & the Abatements on the Two last Taxes, will leave £10,000 specie in the Treasurey, a Sum sufficient to pay all the Debts the Town owes except those for Money borrowed before the seige & the Interest due thereon — The Drafts of the Selectmen since March Amo^ts. to £466 & those of the Overseers Amot^g. to £375 18/ and the paper Money in the Treasurey are not included in this Estimate — the former ought to be paid out of the Tax now to be granted; the latter must be paid out of the Money now due from the Collectors — the Bills of the New Emission in the Treasurey if sold at three for one would raise £7240. Specie a sum sufficient to enable the Overseers to provide for the Poor & to pay the Interest (at least) if not a great part of the Principal of the Debts due for Money borrowed before the Seige, but as this will be Attended with considerable Loss & these Bills must finally be Redeemed at 1⅞ for a hard Dollar the Committee cannot Advise to their being disposed of, unless two for one can now be obtained, at which rate they would produce a Sum Sufficient to pay Off all the Debts due from the Town — Should the Overseers drafts be paid out of the Money supposed to be in the Treasurey there **[104.]** Will not be sufficient to pay Off all the Notes given since the Seige, there is no Doubt that the Proprietors have a Sufficient Sum for the Overseers drafts would be content to wait for the principal (if the Interest was paid) untill the New Emission Bills were Redeemed, or other provision made to discharge their Notes — Therefore your Committee propose the following regulations to the Consideration of the Town, should they be Voted & Attended too, the Credit of the Treasurey will be restored & the Town on any Emergency will be able to borrow such Sums as they may have occasion for provided the Lender can depend on being paid out of the Tax laid for that purpose

1^t. That the Treasurer be directed to Cause an Advertizement to be published Advertising all Persons who are possessed of any Notes given by the Late Treasurer Jeffries to bring them in to be liquidated — Passed

2^d: That he give new Notes for the Amount thereof in Specie one for the Principal and another for the Interest to those who desire it & expect to receive the Interest out of the Money now due from the Collectors — Passed

3^dly. That these Notes be all Numbered, those for principal & those for Interest both to begin at N^o. One, those for the Interest to be paid before those for the Principal, when there is not sufficient in the Treasury to pay both & in **[105.]** Order to induce Persons to bring in their Notes those that bring in first to be paid first & so in Course as they are Numbered — Passed

4^ly. That all the small notes & Ballances remaining Unpaid on any drafts which are to be taken by the Collectors in payment of Taxes to be liquidated & the Sums to be paid indorsed on the back of the Note, or an Order drawn on the Collector for the Amount; or indorsed on the Proprietors Rate Bill

5^thly. The Collectors be directed not to receive any Notes or Orders in payment of Taxes except they are endorsed by Treasurer Boyer and that they be enjoined to Collect & pay into the Treasurey, the remainder of all the Taxes committed to them without Delay —

6thy. That the Treasurer be directed in case any of the Collectors neglect to pay in the Taxes After the time limitted by Law to put the Bonds in Suit

7thly. That the Selectmen be directed not to make any drafts on the Treasurer to be paid out of the Money now Collecting, except for the pay of the Watchmen which Money being granted to pay Off the Notes for Money Borrowed on the Credit of those very Taxes & the Drafts of the two last Years: cannot be Applied to any Other use

8thy. That in all their future contracts & drafts on the Treasurey, they direct the payment to be made out of the Tax granted for the purpose of defraying the [**106.**] Charges of the ensuing year when the same is Collected; and to continue this practice from year to year

By the Drafts of the Selectmen and Overseers for the last two years it appears that the Ordinary Charges of the Town for Schoolmasters Watchmen, Assessors, Treasurer, Town Clerk & Other Necessary Expencies have amounted to about £4500 p Annum the Charges of the ensuing year may be estimated at the same sum, to which is to be Added £1500 already granted for repairing the Streets & Faneuil Hall & Building a New School House this Will make the Tax for the ensuing year £6,000 exclusive of any demands that may be made on the Town for the supply of the Army — if any such Demand is likely to be made, it will be necessary that a further grant be made if it is not wanted for the Army it may be appropriated to pay the Notes, given before the Seige in case the New Emission Bills are not redeemed — what Sum will be necessary for this purpose, & to make good any Abatements that may be made by the Assessors is submitted to the consideration of the Town

The Committee having gone through the examination into the State of the Treasurey, & the Drafts of the Selectmen & Overseers of the Poor, as directed by the Vote of the Town, They beg leave to mention that no enquiry has ever been made into the Conduct of the Assessors; and as the proceedings of all Persons who are intrusted with the Management of Publick Money ought to be enquired into they [**107.**] Propose that a Committee be appointed to examine the Assessors Books, to know on what principals they proceed in Apportioning the Taxes on the Inhabitants — what proportion the Real Estate Bears to the Personal — and how they estimate the Personal Estate & Faculty in order to raise the sum to be Assessed — These are matters that the Town should be acquainted with, & if it should appear from such examination that the Assessors have been in an Error, the Town may then give such directions as to prevent the like in future.

Since Stating the Above Accot: of the Treasury your Committee have been informed that the Board of War have a large demand on the Town for 200 Bushs: Corn about 500 small Arms, Cartouch Boxes, Belts, Slings, Cartridges, Shot, & Other Articles, to the Amount of £2640 specie

The Arms &c were delivered to the Cols. Proctor, Simms, & Hatch, for the Inhabitants who were not provided at that time with Arms some of these were Sold & paid for at the delivery Others were lent to such Persons as were unable to purchase, & were to be returned, but no Account has been rendred of those Arms &c. nor have they been returned — Its proposed that a Committee be appointed to enquire into these Matters & what consideration the Town have received for the Arms delivered up before the Seige that were Afterwards taken & repaired by the State, & make report at the Next Town Meeting

Edward Payne
p Order

[108.] The foregoing Report having been read and considered by Paragraphs — the Town came in to the following Votes thereon

Voted, that a Committee be appointed to confer with the Collectors relative to the Moneys paid into the Treasurey in Bills of the Old Emission Money before the year 1781, upon the Question in the said Report, whether they ought not to receive their Premiums in the same Money

Voted, that the Gentlemen
The Selectmen
be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

Voted, that the Hon$^{ble.}$ John Pitts Esq^{r}.
M^{r}. John Winthrop
Samuel Barret Esq^{r}. — excused
Stephen Higginson Esq^{r}.
be a Committee for considering the 1^{t}. Paragraph of the foregoing Report to Report as soon as may be

Voted, That the Town Treasurer be directed to publish an Advertizement desiring all Persons who are possessed of Notes of the late Treasurer to bring them in to the present Treasurer to be liquidated agreeable to the Scale of depreciation fixed by the Goverment of this Commonwealth

Voted, that the Treasurer give new Notes for the Amount in Specie one for the Principal & another for the Interest to those who desire it & expect to receive the Interest out of the Money now due from the Collectors

[109.] Voted, that these Notes be all Numbered, those for principal & those for Interest both to begin at N^{o}: one, those for the Interest to be paid before those for the Principal. when there is not sufficient in the Treasurey to pay both. & in Order to induce Persons to bring in their Notes, those that bring in first to be paid first & so in course as they are Numbered

Voted, that all the Small Notes & Balances remaining unpaid on any drafts which are to be taken by the Collectors in payment of Taxes to be liquidated & the Sum to be paid indorsed on the back of the Notes or an Order drawn on the Collectors for the Amount or endorsed on the Proprietors Rate Bill

Voted, that the Collectors be directed not to receive any Notes or Orders in payment of Taxes except they are endorsed by Treasurer Boyer and that they be enjoined to Collect & pay into the Treasurey the remainder of all the Taxes committed to them without delay

Voted, that the Treasurer be directed in Case any of the Collectors Neglect to pay in the Taxes after the time limitted by Law to put the Bonds of such delinquent Collectors in suit

Voted, that the Selectmen be directed not to make any drafts on the Treasurer to be paid out of the Money now Collecting except for the pay of the Watchmen [**110.**] which Money being granted to pay Off the Notes for Money borrowed on the Credit of Those very Taxes & the Drafts of the two last years; cannot be apply'd to any other Use

Voted, that in all things future contracts & Drafts on the Treasurey they direct the payment to be made out of the Taxes granted for that purpose of defraying the charges of the ensuing year when the same is Collected and to continue the practice from year to year

Voted, that the Treasurer be directed not to sell any more new Emission Money excepting what may be necessary for the payment of the Watchmen Unless he Obtain one for two

Moved & Voted, that the further consideration of the Report aforesaid be referred to the Adjournment

Adjourned to Fryday next 10. O'Clock Forenoon

Fryday the 17th Day of May A.D 1782 — Met according to Adjournment at the Representatives Chamber 10. OClock. Fore Noon

Mr. Adams in the Chair

Mr. Walley and others the Committee appointed by the Town to contract for the Towns proportion of Beef for the Continental Army — Reported

That they had procured the quantity which had been wanted, & laid before the Town an Account thereof Specefying the particular [**111.**] quantities & the Prices on which they were contracted for; whereby it appeared that a considerable saving had been made by the Committee and that the Balance still due to Oliver Phelps Esqr. the Super Intendt: of Purchases, the Person with whom they contracted for the Beef, is Two hundred and forty eight Pounds nine Shillings and nine pence — whereupon

Moved, and Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby are given to the aforesaid Committee for their good services and the considerable savings they had made for the Town in said Contract

Moved, that the several Collectors be directed to lay before the Town a List of the Names of all such Persons as are indebted for the Beef Tax; and that the Town make an Adjournment of this Meeting to receive the same — the Question being accordingly put — Passed in the Affermative

Moved, and Voted, that the Assessors be requested to attend the Town Meeting, and give information with respect to the Abatements they have made

The Town Clerk was called upon to lay before the Town the Vote passed the last year Respecting the Abatements to be made which was accordingly done

The Moderator having left the Chair and taken a Seat

[**112.**] The Selectmen again presided

A Letter from Stephen Higginson Esq^{r}. chosen to Represent the Town in the General Court the ensuing Year was Laid before the Town, in which Letter he expresses his hopes that the Town will for the reasons he has given accept of his resignation of the Trust they had again reposed in him, — It was thereupon moved and the Question accordingly put — Whether the Town will accept of M^{r}. Higginsons resignation, and Assign a time for coming to the choice of another Representative in his room — which passed in the Affermative

As the Town were informed, that another resignation would be laid before them in a short time — the Assigning a time was postponed for the present

M^{r}. Adams again took the Chair

The Report of the Committee for Auditing Town Treasurers Accompts, again read, and after some debate it was moved & carried that the debate set aside for the present

The Assessors Reported in writing, that the Tax N^{o}: 11 Amounted to £30,981–5–5 on which they had made Abatements the Sum of £1233–6–7

That the 12th. or last Tax amounted to £24,858–7–10 — on which they had made Abatements the Sum of £331–16–6, whereupon it was moved

That the Assessors be directed to proceed immediatley with all the Abatements that are to be made on the two last Taxes Agreeable to the Vote of the Town — And that the Collectors be directed to bring every thing that is to come to their Credit [**113.**] into the Treasurey, that so the Town may know at the Adjournment of this Meeting, what Monies remaine in the hands of the Collectors

The Moderator having again left the Chair and taken a Seat

The Selectmen presided

M^{r}. Jarvis having by a Letter laid before the Town resigned the Trust of a Representative, into which he had been chosen for the ensuing Year

It was moved and Voted, that Five OClock this Evening be Assigned, for coming to the choice of two Representatives in the room of M^{r}. Higginson and M^{r}. Jarvis who have resigned

M^{r}. Adams in the Chair

Voted, that when this Meeting is Adjourned, it shall be to 3. OClock Afternoon then to Meet at the Representatives Chamber

Adjourned accordingly

3. OClock P: M: Met according to Adjournment

M^{r}. Adams in the Chair

The Report of the Committee to Audit the Town Treasurers Accompts, again taken up, whereupon Moved, That a Committee be Appointed to examine the Assessors Books to know on what principles they proceed in apportioning the Taxes on the Inhabitants — what proportion the Real Estate bears to the Personal Estate & Faculty in order to raise the Sum to be Assessed — [**114.**] The Question being accordingly put — Passed in the Affermative

Voted, that Samuel Broom Esq^r. excused
Edward Payne Esq^r.
M^r. Herman Brimer
be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

Moved & Voted, that the consideration of what will be the Sum proper to be raised by a Tax on Polls & Estates be postponed till the Adjournment —

On the consideration of the last Clause in the Report of the Committee to Audit the Town Treasurers Accounts

Voted, that Cap^t. Isaac Phillips
Thomas Melvill — excused
M^r. Elisha Sigourney
be a Committee to consider said Clause and Report as soon as may be —

On a Motion Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby are given to Edward Payne Esq^r. and others the Committee for Auditing the Accounts of the Town Treasurer, for the Time they have generously spent in the business & their Assiduety in preparing said Report — And the Committee have leave to Report further —

Adjourned to 6 O'Clock in the Evening

Selectmen presided —

This being the Time Assigned for the choice of [**115.**] Two Representatives — The Inhabitants were directed by the Selectmen to withdraw and bring in their Votes for Two Representatives; and then it was declared by the Selectmen that no Votes will be received but such as are unfolded, & on one piece of Paper, and that such of the Inhabitants as give in their Votes at the Door, must enter the Hall, and that they propose the Poll to be closed at 6. O'Clock —

The Votes being brought in accordingly the number of the Same were found to be One hundred sixty seven; and upon sorting them it appear'd that the two following Persons were chosen — Viz^t.

Hon^{ble}. James Bowdoin Esq^r.
Hon^{ble}. William Phillips Esq^r.

M^r. Adams in the Chair

On a Motion, Voted, that the aforementioned —

The Committee to consider what Steps shall be taken for settling with the Board of War &c.

Reported verbally —

On a Motion, Voted that the aforementioned Committee be requested to reduce their Report to Writing

Major Melvill having desired that he might be excused from serving on the Committee with Cap^t. Phillips & others he was accordingly excused

Voted, that M^r. Joseph Peirce be added to the said Committee in the room of Major Melvill

[**116.**] The Article in the Warrant. Viz^t. "To consider and determine relating to the Premium due to the severall Collectors of Taxes on the Taxes by them Collected and paid into the several"

Treasurers — was read whereupon Voted, that a Committee be appointed to take said Article into consideration — Confer with the Collectors & Report what is proper to be done —

Voted, that M^{r}. John Coffin Jones
M^{r}. Thomas Walley excused
M^{r}. Joseph Russell
M^{r}. Joseph Barrell excused
Ezekiel Price Esq^{r}. excused
Robert T. Payne Esq^{r}. excused
Samuel Broom Esq^{r}. excused
Timothy Newell Esq^{r}.
be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

Voted, that John Lucas Esq^{r}. be added to the Committee for Examining the Assessors Books, & in the room of Samuel Broom Esq^{r}. who has been excused from serving —

Moved and Voted, that the late Town Treasurer David Jeffries be and hereby is required to deliver over the Books, Papers, Moneys and all other Matters, and Things appertaining to the Office of Town Treasurer unto
Edward Payne Esq^{r}.
William Powell Esq^{r}.
M^{r}. Hermon Brimmer
who are hereby impowered to receive the same and give Receipts for such Monies and other things **[117.]** as they may receive — and the said Committee are hereby directed to lodge the same in the Office of M^{r}. Treasurer Peter Boyer taking his Receipt therefor, and lodging the said Receipt in the hands of the Selectmen —

The Selectmen presided

The Hon^{ble}. James Bowdoin Esq^{r}. chosen one of the Representatives; informs the Town, that he declines accepting that trust as by his Letter on file

Voted, that this Meeting be Adjourned to to Morrow Morning Eleven O.Clock, for the choice of a Representative in the room of M^{r}. Bowdoin who has resigned — and the Selectmen propose the Poll to be closed at 12. O'Clock

M^{r}. Adams in the Chair

Voted, that this Meeting be Adjourned to Wednesday next. 10. OClock in the Forenoon

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned —

The Selectmen preside —

Saturday May 18th. 11' O'Clock Met according to Adjournment

This was the time Assigned for the choice of one Representative, but a Letter having been received from the Hon^{ble}. James Lovell Esq^{r}. acquainting the Town, that he could not accept the Choice they had made of him for one of their Representatives in the General Court — A Motion was made — That the **[118.]** Vote of yesterday for coming to the choice of one Representative in the room of M^{r}. Bowdoin at this Time, be reconsidered, & that the Town now determine not to make choice of any Other Persons as Representatives in the room of those who have declined serving — this Motion was withdrawn and it was then Moved and Voted, that this Meeting be Adjourned to half past 12. O.Clock, for the choice of two Representatives in the room of the Hon^{ble}. James Bowdoin Esq^{r}. and the Hon^{ble}. James Lovel Esq^{r}. who have resigned —

Half past 12. O'Clock. Met according to Adjournment

This being the time Assigned by the Selectmen for the choice of two Representatives in the room of M^{r}. Bowdoin and M^{r}. Lovel who have declined serving — The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw, and bring in their Votes for two Representatives and then it was declared by the Selectmen that no Votes will be received, but such as are unfolded, and on one piece of Paper and that such of the Inhabitants as give in their Votes at the Door, must then enter the Hall, and that they propose the Poll to be closed before One O'Clock —

The Votes being brought in accordingly the Number of the same were found to be, One hundred & fifty three and upon sorting them it appeared, that only one Person was chosen — Viz^{t}.

[**119.**] Samuel Barret Esq^{r}.

The Inhabitants after the choice had been declared by the Selectmen were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes, for one Representative — and the same declaration was made by the Selectmen with respect to receiving the Votes &c. as had been made previous to the last choice —

The Inhabitants having withdrawn and brought in their Votes Accordingly the Number of the Votes were found to be Ninety five, but upon sorting them it appeared, that, no one Person Voted for had Obtained a Majority of said Votes

It was then moved and seconded that the Vote passed the first of this meeting for the Choice of Seven Persons to Represent the Town in the next General Court be now reconsidered, and that no other Person be chosen in addition to the Six Gentelmen already chosen After some debate — the Question was accordingly put — Passed in the Negative —

Moved that this Meeting be Adjourned to 6. O'Clock in the Evening for the choice of one Representative —

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned —

6. O'Clock Afternoon Met according to Adjournment

[**120.**] This being the time Assigned by the Selectmen for the choice of one Representative still wanting to compleat the number the Town have Voted to send

The Inhabitants were accordingly directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for one Representative; and then it was declared by the Selectmen that no Votes will be received but such as are unfolded, and on one piece of Paper, and that such of the Inhabitants as give in their Votes at the Door must enter the Hall — and that they propose to close the Poll at Seven O'Clock in the Evening

The Votes being brought in accordingly the number of the same were found to be One hundred and thirty seven, and upon sorting them it appeared — that

Nathan Frazier Esqr.

was chosen

Wednesday the 22d. Day of May 10. O'Clock in the Forenoon, Met according to Adjournment

Mr. Adams in the Chair

Voted, that the Selectmen be a Committee to Act upon the List of Jurors

The Committee to consider what Steps shall be taken for settling with the Board of War, their demands on the Town for Small Arms &c [**121.**] Beg leave to report, that having made due examination and enquirey with respect to the Sundrys charged by the Board of War to the Selectmen they apprehend that the 1st. Article amounting to £21–9–5 — was for repairs of the State Hospital, though they cannot find by whose order it was delivered

The 2d. Article delivered for use of Hospital Boat — amounting to - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	£8 – 5 – 10
3d. Article — for use of State Hospital by order of Council dated 19th. Septr. 1777 - - - - - -	37 – 2 – 1
4th. Article for use of Hospital Boat Amo'g to - -	12 – 10 – 10
5th. Article - - - - for State Hospital - - -	15 – 1 – 7
6th. Article for 20 — Load for Town of Boston - -	80 – 0 – 0
7th. Article delivd. J Scolly Esqr. by the Verbal order of the Honble. Benja. Austin Esqr. for Hospital -	17 – 10
8th. Article delivered J Scolly Esqr. by Order of Court dated Octr. 12th. 1778 for the Sick at the Hospital	30 – 13 – 5
9th. Article — delivd. J Scollay for Hospital Boat by Order of Council dated Novr. 6. 1778 - - - -	63 – 19 – 7½
10th. Article — delivd. N. Frazier Esqr. for a Sick Negro at the Hospital by Order of Council Jany. 19th. 1780 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	14 – 6
11th. Article delivd. J Scollay Esqr. for Hospital Boat by order of Council Jany. 19. 1780 - - - - - -	93 – 2 – 8½

That the 500 bushells Corn charged as delivered Wm. Phillips Esqr: the Overseers are to account for, As also for the 200 bushels delivered the Selectmen which by an Order of Court Octr. 12th. 1778 was to be considered as so much paid towards defraying the Charges of the State Poor

[**122.**] The small arms &c charged the Militia of the Town of Boston, were received by Colo. Proctor and by him delivered to the several Captains of his Regiment, to be put into the hands of those persons in their respective Companies who were not able to Purchase them

The Committee are of Opinion that the final Adjustment of the Account of it, Lays with the Selectmen, and that they should be directed to proceed in that Buissiness as soon as may be And if any difficulty should Arise that they take the Sence of the General Court

THOMAS MELVILL p Order

The foregoing Report having been read and considered, the Question was put Whether the same shall be accepted — Passed in the Affermative

Moved & Voted, that Col°. Proctor be directed to Collect all the Cartridges which have been placed by him in the hands of his Officers to be used when occasion required it — the same to be delivered in to the Selectmen

Voted, that Col°. Procter be directed to Collect all the small Arms and Accoutrements received from the Board of War, that are now in the hands of the Captains of his Regiment — the same to be returned to the Selectmen and also to enquire what has become of such as shall not be returned

[**123.**] The Committee Appointed to Audit the Town Treasurers Account Report further

Whereas the Town has been pleased to Accept the first report of said Committee & the Regulations therein proposed have been unanimously Voted, they propose that those regulations should be published for the information of the Inhabitants

2^{dly}. And in order to compleat the plan therein proposed, it will be necessary the real Estate of the Treasury should be assertained & every Article of Debts, & Credits, Adjusted, that the Treasurer may know how to proceed in paying Off the several Demands on the Town

3^{dly}. It is therefore proposed that the Committee Appointed to enquire into the expenditure of Moneys received out of the Treasurey, & the Demands of the Board of War for Arms &c be desired to report as soon as possible and in case it appears by their report there is Money due either from the Officers of Militia or any other Persons for Arms &c received & not returned, or from those who received Money out of the Treasury, or from any other Person indebted to the Town that the Treasurer be directed to demand the same immediately

That the Selectmen be desired to settle the Accounts exhibited by the Board of War & report what may be due After deducting the Supplys for the Hospital & the Amount of the Arms belonging to the Inhabitants which the State took into their possession & Apply'd to the Use of the Army After the Enemy left the Town

[**124.**] That they procure payment from the State for Cloathing &c supply'd for the use of the Army by order of the General Assembly and likewise the Supplys to Soldiers Familys — 4^{thy}. The That Representatives of the Town be & hereby are instructed to see that the Town has Credit for what may be due to them on Account of the Bounty for raising Men for the Army in 1780. and also on Account of Clothing & any other Supplies for the Army & the Selectmen are desired to furnish them with the Necessary documents if it has not already been deducted out of their proportion of the State Tax — All which is Submitted to the Consideration of the Town

EDWARD PAYNE p Order

The foregoing Report was considered by Paragraphs, and accepted

Moved & Voted, that a Committee be appointed to enquire what has become of the Arms which were lodged in Faneiuel Hall in 1774 and Report to the Town

Voted, that the Selectmen be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

Moved that the Selectmen be directed to publish in hand Bills the Regulations which the Town came into the 15th. Inst. in consequence of a Report of the Committee appointed to Audit [**125.**] the Town Treasurers Accompts and to take orders that the same be delivered to the several Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Town — and the Question being put — Passed in the Affirmative

Moved & Voted, that the Town Treasurer be directed to call upon Capt. John Simkins for an Adjustment of the Accompts for the Supplies of the Soldiers Familys ; and to receive any Moneys that may be due thereon

Voted, that the Representatives of the Town be and they hereby are Instructed to see that the Town have Credit for what may be due to them on Account of the Bounty for raising Men for the Army in 1780 — and also on Account of Clothing and any other Supplies for the Army and the Selectmen are directed to furnish them with the necessary documents, if it has not already been deducted out of their proportion of the State Tax

The Committee to whom by a Vote of the Town on the 17th. Inst: was refered to the Consideration of the Demands of the Collectors for their premeium on the Taxes by them paid to the Several Treasurers — Report that having considered with the Collectors on the Subject & examined the resolutions of the Town relating thereto, they are of Opinion that the Collectors are entitled for the year 1777 to a premium of Seven & half p Cent for the Money they paid within four Months, [**126**] five p Cent for what they paid within twelve Months on Account of the Tax for that year, from the time of its being committed to them

That for all the Subsiquent Taxes in 1778. 1779 & 1780. they be allowed five p Cent on all payments they have made within four Months three & ¾ p Cent on all payments made within Eight Months, & two & half p Cent on all payments made within twelve months from the time of their being committed to them & that for the payments not made within twelve Months they are not intitled to a premium — That the several Collectors be directed to exhibit their Accounts conformable thereto as soon as may be for a Settlement

John Coffin Jones

The foregoing Report having been read and considered — the Question was put — Whether the same shall be accepted — Passed in the Affermative

The Selectmen a Committee to confer with the Collectors relative to the Moneys paid into the Treasury in Bills of the Old Emission Money before the year 1781 — upon the Question in said Report Vizt. — Whether they ought not to receive their Premium in said Money Reported

That in their Opinion the Collectors ought not to receive their Premium in Bills of the Old Emission

[**127.**] The foregoing Report having been read and considered — the Question was put — Whether the same shall be accepted passed in the Affermative

The Committee appointed to consider the 1st. Paragraph of the Report of the Committee to Audit Town Treasurers Accompts, Reported Verbally and in part — and Asked leave to Report again

Moved and Voted, that the Town Treasurer be directed to call upon Col°. Proctor to account for the Monies put into his hands for the purpose of raising two hundrded and Sixty four Men in 1780

Voted, that the Sum of Five thousand Pounds in Silver & Gold be raised by a Tax upon the Polls and Rateable Estates of the Inhabitants of this Town in order to defrey the necessary Expences of the ensuing Year

Moved, that the Town Treasurer be and he hereby is directed to Issue Writs of Distress on all the Collectors who are deficient in paying in the Tax, called the Beef Tax, on or before the 1st. Day of July next — and the Question being put — Passed in the Affermative

Voted, that all Matters & Things which remain unfinished at this Meeting be referred for consideration, to the next General Town Meeting that shall be called

[128.] Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby are given to the Honble. Samuel Adams Esqr. the Moderator of this Meeting for his good services as Moderator

Moved & Voted, that this Meeting be dessolved

And it was accordingly dessolved

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned, in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Tuesday the 18th. Day of June Anno Domini 1782. 3. O.Clock P: M:

Warrant for calling the Meeting read

Moved and Voted, that a Moderator for this Meeting be chosen by a Hand Vote

Ezekiel Price Esqr.

was chosen Moderator of the Meeting accordingly

The Article in the Warrant Vizt. "To consider and determine whether the Town will choose Collectors of Taxes in the room of those chosen last March Meeting, they not being eligible according to a Vote of the Town passed the 15th. Day of March last, or reconsider said Vote": — was read, and after *debate* had thereon — It was moved, **[129.]** that the Question be now put, Vizt. Whether the Town will proceed to the choice of new Collectors of Taxes, in the room of those chosen last March Meeting, they not having as yet complied with the Vote of the Town passed the 15th. of March last in order to their having the new Tax Books committed to them

And the Question being accordingly put — Passed in the Affirmative

It was then moved, and Voted, that there shall be four Collectors of Taxes chosen in the room of those Persons chosen Collectors at the March Meeting — and the Question being accordingly put — Passed in the Affermative

It was then moved, and Voted, that the choice of Collectors of Taxes be referred to the Adjournment of this Meeting

The Petition of the Collectors of Taxes praying "that they may have sundry Abatements made them of the Tax committed to them to Collect of the Inhabitants in September 1781" — was — read after debate had thereon it was moved, That the Assessors be permitted to set two Weeks, from this Day, for the Abatement of such Taxes on the Tax N°: 11 and 12. as they shall Judge to be reasonable — and that they be directed to take a list of the Names of the Persons and their Taxes, which Taxes could not be Collected, by reason of Persons being Absent, or other Necessary Causes; [**130.**] and that they lay the same before the Town at the Adjournment of this Meeting; any former Vote to the contrary notwithstanding

And the Question being accordingly put — Passed in the Affermative

It was moved, that this Meeting be Adjourned to to Morrow fortnight being the third Day of July next. 3. O'Clock Afternoon —

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

Wednesday the third Day of July Anno Domini 1782 — 3. O'Clock in the Afternoon — Met according to Adjournment

Moved and Voted, that the Town now come to the choice of two Persons as Clerks of the Market in the room of two others chosen into that Office at the March Meeting

Mr. James White was chosen a Clerk of the Market for the ensuing Year, in the room of Mr. Conent who is abroad

Mr. Samuel Smith was chosen a Clerk of the Market for the Year ensuing in the room of Mr. Frazier who has gone abroad

The Assessors agreable to a Vote of the Town passed the 18th. Day of June last — permitting them to set two Weeks, from that Day [**131.**] for the Abatement of such Taxes on the Tax N°. 11. and 12th. as they shall Judge to be reasonable &c. laid before the Inhabitants a List of the Names of the Persons and Taxes which could not be Collected on the Tax N°. 11 and 12 — by reason of Persons being absent or other necessary Causes

Moved, that the Town now come to the choice of four Collectors of Taxes Agreeable to a Vote passed at the late Meeting — And the Question being accordingly put — Passed in the Affermative

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for four Collectors of Taxes, and the same being brought in and sorted, & before the Vote was declared, a Motion was made that the Votes passed by the Town the 15th. Day of March last relative to Collectors and the Subsequent Vote in consequence thereof which was also passed by the Town on the eighteenth Day of June last be now reconsidered — And the Question being accordingly put — Passed in the Affermative

Mr. Benjamin Sumner Junr. one of the Collectors of Taxes chosen in March last appeared, and prayed the Town that he may be excused from serving in that Office the present Year — and the Question being accordingly put — Passed in the Affermative

On a Motion made — Voted, that when this Meeting is Adjourned, it shall be to Fryday Next 3. O'Clock in the Afternoon

[132.] On a Motion made Voted, that the Selectmen be and hereby are impowered and directed, to allow Mr. Isaac Warren Interest on the Money advanced by him for the Town on furnishing and procuring Shoes for the Continental Army; from the time it became due

Adjourned to Fryday the 5 Day of July Instant. 3. O'Clock afternoon then to meet in this place

Fryday the 5th. Day of July. 3 O: Clock Afternoon, Met according to Adjournment

On a Motion Voted, that the Persons chosen Collectors of Taxes at the March Meeting, be called upon to acquaint the Town whether they would serve in that Office the Year ensuing

Francis Shaw Esqr. one of the Collectors appeared, and being called upon, acquainted the Town, that he declined serving in that Office the present Year, and prayed that his resignation might be accepted by the Town for the reasons he had offered — The Question being accordingly put — Passed in the Affermative

Mr. James Thompson another of the Collectors being present, was called upon, when he informed the Town, that he declines serving in that Office the present Year, for reasons by him offered; and prayed that his refusal might be accepted by the Town

[133.] The Question being accordingly put — Passed in the Affirmative

Mr. James Bayley the other Collector of Taxes appeared, and also declined serving in that Office the present Year, — and prayed that the Town would accept his excuse, for the reasons he had given; and the Question being accordingly put — Passed in the Affermative

The Committee upon the Petition and Memorial of Mr. Samuel Ruggles, respecting the Debt due from Mr. Holeyday a late Collector, having examined the Papers are of Opinion

That the Assessors be directed immediately to Abate the Taxes of such Persons on said Holeydays List, as have been reduced by means of the War, and who are still unable to pay, and the Taxes of those who have died, or joined the Enemy and left no Estate; provided they are satisfied that such Taxes were not lost by the negligence or undue leinety of the said Collectors — and that Samuel Ruggles Esqr. as Administrator of the Estate of said Holleyday be impowered and enjoined to Collect and pay, or give his Obligation to pay, the then remaining balance into the Treasurey of this Town, within the space of six Months from the time the Assessors shall determine the Abatements upon which the Bonds of the said Hollyday to be discharged

EBENEZER HANCOCK p Order.

[134.] The foregoing Report having been read, and considered — the Question was put Vizt. Whether the same shall be accepted — Passed in the Affermative

On a Motion made. Voted, unanimously, that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby are given to Mr. Christopher Clark, for his generous Donation of a Bell for the use of one of the publick Schools in this Town

Moved that when this Meeting is Adjourned it shall be to Monday next 5 OClock. P: M:

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

Monday July 8th Five O'Clock in the Afternoon — Met according to Adjournment

Moved and Voted, that the Town now come to the choice of four Collectors of Taxes

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for four Collectors of Taxes — and the same having been brought in and sorted, it appeared that

Messrs: Thomas Bayley
Charles Williams
Daniel Parker
William Fallass

[**135.**] were chosen Collectors of Taxes for the year ensuing.

Moved and Voted, that the Vote passed at a late Meeting, directing the Town Treasurer to commence a Suit against the Collectors of Taxes for the Beef Tax so called, be reconsidered

And the Question being accordingly put — Passed in the Affirmative

The Committee appointed to enquire into the conduct of the Assessors in Apportioning the Taxes on the Inhabitants, what proportion the Real Estate bears to the Personal, and how they Estimated the Personal Estate and Faculty, in order to raise the Sum to be Assessed, having attended that business — Report as follows

That the Estimates made by the Assessors of the value of the Real and Personal Estate of the Inhabitants, appears to be nearly the same, with the Estimates, made by the General Court, on which the Towns proportion of the State Tax was Assessed

That the Income of the Real Estates deducting Repairs amounts to Upwards of Nine thousand Pounds, and the Interest on the Personal Estate including Money on hand and at Interest, Stock in Trade, Vessels and Income by Trade and Faculty at six per cent amounts to near twenty Six thousand Pounds — from these two Sums [**136.**] amounting to about thirty five Thousand Pounds, they deduct the amount of the Poll Tax, and the remainder is the Sum on which the 12th. Tax is apportioned on this Sum the Assessors calculate, how much in the Pound will raise the Sum to be Assessed; and what it amounts to in the Pound every Inhabitant is charged on the amount of his perticular Valuation. both of Real, and Personal Estate being eight Shillings and eight Pence on the State Tax, and four Shillings on the Town and County

In the Tax now coming out the Income of the Real Estate amounts to ten thousand Nine hundred and twenty Six pounds, and the Personal to twenty Thousand five hundred ninety four, and turns out five shillings, and eleven pence to the State Tax, and three Shillings and five Pence to the Town

But the Assessors have no certain Rule by which they Estimate the Personal Estate of the most part of the Inhabitants as not more than one hundred and twenty Persons have given in Lists, the remainder being nineteen parts out of twenty, they are under a necessity of dooming, according to the best Information they can obtain, which no doubt is often erroneous, and must occasion some Individuals to be taxed more and less, than in Justice they ought to pay: this will always be the case while the Inhabitants [**137.**] are doomed, and your Committee can devise no remedy, unless the Inhabitants in general can be prevailed on to give into the Assessors, true Lists of all their Rateable Estates

EDWARD PAYNE p Order

The foregoing Report having been read and considered — the Question was put — Whether the same shall be accepted — Passed in the Affirmative

Moved, that the Town Treasurer be directed, in case the late Collectors do not pay into the Treasury their respective Ballances on or before the eight Day of October next, to put the Bonds of such delinquent Collectors in Suit. — And the Question being accordingly put — Passed in the Affirmative

On a Motion, Voted, that all Matters and things which remain unfinished at this Meeting, be referred over to the next General Town Meeting that shall be called

On a Motion Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby are given to Ezekiel Price Esqr. for his good services as Moderator of this Meeting

Then the Meeting was dessolved

[**138.**] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in publick Town Meeting Assembled at Fanuiel Hall the 25th Day of July, Anno Domini 1782. 3. O'Clock. P: M:

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for a Moderator of this Meeting, and the same being brought in and sorted it appeared — that

Nathan Frazier Esqr.

was chosen Moderator

The Article in the Warrant Vizt. "To consider what Measures shall be taken to Anticipate the payment of the Continental Taxes; and to Loan such further Sums of Money for a few Months only as their respective Circumstances will possibly admit of; and such other Matters as are earnestly recomended, by the General Assembly in their Resolves of the 4th and 5th of July Instant" — was read together with the said Resolves, and two Circular Letters, accompanying them whereupon

Moved, that a Committee of three Persons be appointed for each Ward in the Town, to wait upon the Inhabitants who [**139.**] are Taxed, and impress upon their Minds, the Absolute necessity of the immediate payment of the present Tax. —

and the Question being accordingly put — Passed in the Affermative

Moved that a Committee of twelve Persons be appointed and that they be directed to retire into the Selectmens Chamber, and Report Three suitable Persons in each Ward for the Above Committee — and the Question being put — Passed in the Affirmative — also

Voted, that

	Ward
M^{r}. John R. Sigorney	N^{o}. 1
M^{r}. John White	2
M^{r}. Daniel Parker	3
Edward Proctor Esq^{r}.	4
M^{r}. John Larking	5
John Scollay Esq^{r}.	6
Major Thomas Melville	7
M^{r}. Jeremiah Belknap	8
Edward Payne Esq^{r}.	9
Nath^{l}. Appleton Esq^{r}.	10
Thomas Daws Esq^{r}.	11
Hon^{ble}. Caleb Davis Esq^{r}.	12

be a Committee for said Purpose

The Article in the Warrant. Viz^{t}. " To consider the request of a Number of the respectable Inhabitants, that some Measures may be taken to prevent the Alarming Effects of a Combination of the Bakers, in order to compel the Inhabitants to receive Bread on their own Terms" — was read — and after some debate it was moved [**140.**] and carried; that all further debate on this matter subside for the present

Moved and Voted, that when this Meeting is Adjourned, it shall be to this Day three Weeks in order to receive the Report of the Collectors of Taxes

The Committee appointed to Report the Names of three Persons in each of the twelve Wards suitable to compose the Committee of Thirty six to wait upon the Inhabitants of their respective Wards agreeable to a foregoing Vote — Reported a List accordingly — whereupon the following Persons were chosen for said Committee — Viz^{t}.

	Ward
Cap^{t}. William Brown	N^{o}. 1
Cap^{t}. Silas Atkins	
Deacon Jonathan Brown	
M^{r}. Alexander Hill	2
M^{r}. Thomas Vernon	
Abiel Ruddock Esq^{r}.	
M^{r}. Samuel Eliot	3
M^{r}. Edward Edes	
Cap^{t}. John Ballard	
Francis Shaw Esq^{r}.	4
Alexander Edwards	
M^{r}. Samuel Parkman	
Jonathan Williams Esq^{r}.	5
Deacon William Boardman	
M^{r}. Thomas Hitchburne	
[**141.**] John Coffin Jones Esq^{r}.	N^{o}. 6
William Greenleaf Esq^{r}.	
M^{r}. Joseph Hall	

Deacon Tim^{o}. Newell	7
Joseph Callender	
Samuel A. Otis Esq^{r}.	
Isaac Smith Esq^{r}.	8
John Codman Sen^{r}.	
Deacon John Simpkins	
Hon^{ble}. William Phillips Esq^{r}.	9
M^{r}. John Andrews	
M^{r}. Joseph Coolidge	
Thomas Walley Esq^{r}.	10
Col^{o}. Joseph Webb	
Maj^{r}. John Reed	
M^{r}. Joseph Barrell	11
Samuel Barrett Esq^{r}.	
M^{r}. Joseph Russell Jun^{r}.	
Cap^{t}. Gustavus Fellows	12
John Lucas Esq^{r}.	
Maj^{r}. John May	

The Article in the Warrant relative to the Combination of the Bakers was again read — and after much debate and altercation with the Bakers, it was moved, and carried, that all further debate on this Article totally subside

The Meeting was then Adjourned to Thursday the 15 Day of August next 3. O.Clock in the Afternoon, then to meet in this place

[**142.**] Thursday the 15th Day of August Anno Domini 1782 — 3. O'Clock Afternoon met according to Adjournment

M^{r}. Frazier in the Chair

M^{r}. William Fallass one of the Collectors of Taxes, being in the Meeting, was called upon to make Report relative to the Monies he had Collected of the Inhabitants in his Ward, for the late Continental Tax

Reported, that he had Collected of the Middling People in his Ward, and paid into the Treasury of this Commonwealth to the Amount of Six hundred pounds lawful Money

Moved and Voted, that all Matters, and things which remains unfinished at this Meeting, be and hereby are referred over to the next General Town Meeting then to be Acted upon

Moved and Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby are given to Nathan Frazier Esq^{r}. for his good services as Moderator of this Meeting

Moved, that this Meeting be dissolved and it was accordingly — dissolved

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At a Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in publick Town Meeting [**143.**] Assembled at Fanuiel Hall the 15th. Day of August Anno Domini 1782 — 5. O'Clock Afternoon

Warrant for calling the Meeting read

Moved and Voted, that the Town come to a choice of a Moderator by a Hand Vote

Nathan Frazier Esq^{r}.

was chosen Moderator of this Meeting

Mr. Thomas Bayley one of the Collectors of Taxes being in this Meeting was called upon to make Report relative to the Monies he had Collected of the Inhabitants in his Ward, for the late Continental Tax

Reported that he had Collected, and paid into the Continental Treasury of said Tax, upwards of Eight hundred Pounds lawful Money

The Article in the Warrant Vizt. "To consider and determine what is proper to be done relative to the Towns deficiency of men for the Massachusetts Line of the Army, a Warrant from the Treasurer of this Commonwealth having been issued for the Assessors to Assess the Sum of £2370 — 13 — 4 on the deficient Class or Classes in this Town, being the Average price of the cost of raising the whole Number granted by this State" was read — whereupon it was moved and Voted, that the Committee [**144.**] appointed for raising this Towns proportion of Men for the Continental Army be called upon to Report — When they Reported accordingly

That 586 Classes paid the Committee £45 each, for which Classes they had procured the Men — 7 Classes paid the Committee £45 — each for which Classes they had not procured men

That 18 Classes had paid £525 — 18 — 3 in part 78 Classes the Committee have received of in whole and part —

3 Classes have procured their own Men 4 Classes have neither paid the Money nor yet the Men — D Moraton. W Sherburn. J. Russell. C. Clark

85 Men is the Towns Quota Memo. the Committee have on hand about £770

Mr. Collector Williams, being in the Meeting, was called upon to make Report relative to the Monies he had Collected in his Ward Reported

That he had Collected and paid into the State Treasurey Five hundred and Eighty Pounds, and into the Town Treasurey — Fifty three pounds eight shillings and Six pence

The first Article in the Warrant relative to the Towns deficiency of Men for the Massachusetts Line being again taken up, it was moved and

Voted, that a Committee of three Persons be appointed to take up this Article [**145.**] at large, and Report what they may apprehend will be best for the Town to do thereon, at the Adjournment of this Meeting

Voted, that the Honble. Robt. T. Payne Esqr.
William Story Esqr.
Mr. Thomas Walley Esqr.
be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

Moved and Voted, that the Committee Appointed to inlist this Towns proportion of Men for the Massachusetts Line, be desired to continue their good services untill the same are Obtained

The Article in the Warrant Vizt.

"To determine whether Gravel shall be taken from Fox Hill for repairing the Streets" — was read — whereupon

Voted, that the Selectmen have liberty to take as much Gravel from Fox Hill, as they may Judge Necessary for the Repairs of the Streets of this Town, any preceeding Votes to the contrary notwithstanding

The Article in the Warrant Vizt. "To consider of some way for discharging what is due to several of the Town Watch for former Wages" — was read whereupon

Voted, that the Town Treasurer, be directed to pay the Watchmen of the Town, their back Wages, out of the first Monies of the Old Tax that shall be received into the Treasury

[146.] Mr. Daniel Parker one of the Collectors of Taxes being in the Meeting was called upon to make Report relative to the Monies he had Collected in his Wards for the late Continental Tax

Reported that he had Collected & paid into the State Treasurey of said Tax upwards of Six hundred Pounds

Moved that this Meeting be Adjourned to Monday next being the 19th. of August Inst. 5. O'Clock in the Afternoon, then to meet at the Representatives Chamber

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

Monday the 19th. Day of August 1782. 5. OClock in the Afternoon — Met According to Adjournment

Nathan Frazier Esqr. in the Chair

The Committee to whom was referred the consideration of the first Article in the Warrant respecting the deficiency of the Towns quota of Men to be raised & have Attended that service and now Report to the Town that upon enquirey into the Matter they find that the Inhabitants of this Town having been aranged into 85 Classes for the Purpose of procuring the 85 Men

[147.] 58 of those Classes paid the Money required of them by the Town to the Committee appointed for hiring the Men, and they were accordingly hired Mustered and received

5 of the Classes procured the men themselves

7 of the Classes paid to the Committee their Money in due season Vizt. — £45 — but the Committee were not Able to procure the Men

12 of the Classes paid part of the £45 — in due season

3 of the Classes paid nothing nor procured their Men

85 Classes. The Chairmen of the Classes who are wholy delinquent are

Messrs: Dimond Morton
Joseph Russell Mercht:
Christopher Clark

The Committee therefore beg leave to submit the following proposals to the consideration of the Town — Vizt.

That the Committee for procuring Men be vested with discretionary power and directed to procure the deficient number of Men with the greatest dispatch and on the easiest terms they can

That the Assessors be directed forthwith to Assess the whole average sum of the price of hiring a Man as certified by the Treasurer of this Commonwealth and the 20 pr. cent upon the delinquent Individuals **[148.]** in the twelve Classes respectively, who have paid only part of their £45 — the Money already paid by any part of such Classes to the Committee to be applied towards, hiring a Man for such Class, when wanted for that purpose

That the Assessors be directed to Assess said whole Average Sum with the 20 per Cent on the three Classes who are wholly delinquent; and if either of the three Classes who are wholy delinquent or any of the twelve Classes who are delinquent in part, should procure their Men before the Sum aforesaid to be Assessed upon them shall be Collected, that then such Sums shall not be Collected, any part that is Collected shall be returned also, that the Committee for procuring Men be directed for to procure the Men for the 7 Classes who paid their whole £45 — in season, and what prices, is paid therefor over and Above the forty five Pounds, if any be Assessed hereafter at Large upon the Inhabitants of the Town, at the next Tax that shall be levied

all which is submitted

R. T. Payne p. Order

The foregoing Report having been read, and considered — the Question was put. Viz^{t}. Whether the same shall be accepted — Passed in the Affirmative

Moved and Voted, that all Matters and things which remaine unfinished at this Meeting be and hereby are referred [**149.**] over to the next General Town Meeting that may be called, then to Act upon

On a Motion Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby are given unto Nathan Frazier Esq^{r}. for his good services as Moderator of this Meeting

Then the Meeting was — dissolved

At a Meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified, and legally warned in publick Town Meeting Assembled at Fanieul Hall on Tuesday the 3^{d}. Day of September AD 1782 — 9 OClock — A: M

Warrant for calling Meeting — read

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for a Moderator of this Meeting, and the same being brought in and sorted it appeared, that

The Hon^{ble}. Samuel Adams Esq^{r}. was chosen Moderator unanimously

On a Motion, the Pitition for calling a Town Meeting — was read

The Article in the Warrant. Viz^{t}. — "Then and there Agreeable to the request of a great number of the respectable Inhabitants to take into their serious consideration, what [**150.**] Steps are proper to be taken on Account of the Alarming and distructive lengths to which the ellicit Trade with our Enemies is now carried was read

Samuel Broom Esq^{r}. having laid before the Town several Letters from Cap^{t}. Collis M^{r}. Prentice &c and Other Papers relative to a Number of Persons carrying on an Illicit Trade with the Enemy which he had lately brought from Connecticut where they had been taken — it was moved that the same be read, and they were accordingly read by the Moderator

Mr. John Proctor one of the Persons mentioned in said Letter, Apprehending his Character might be injured by the same; being in Town Meeting, handed to the Moderator a Deposition Taken before a Majestrate, & moved that the same might be read — and it was accordingly read, & then placed on the File of Papers

Moved and Voted, that a Committee be appointed to wait upon his Excellency the Governor, and to request that he would be pleased to communicate to the Town such Papers or informations as he may Judge proper respecting an illicit trade carrying on with the Enemy

Moved, & Voted, that this Committee consist of five

Voted, that the Honble. Robert T. Payne Esqr.
Ezekiel Price Esqr.
Samuel Broom Esqr.
[151.] Isaac Sears Esqr.
(excused) Stephen Higginson Esqr.
Charles Jarvis Esqr.

be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

The Article in the Warrant relative to illicit Trade with the Enemy, was again taken up, and after some debate it was moved and Voted, that a Committee be now appointed, to take into consideration what Steps are proper to be taken, on Account of the Alarming and distructive lengths to which the illicit trade with our Enemies is now carried — and that this Committee consist of seven

Voted, that the Honble. Samuel Adams Esqr.
Honble. John Lowell Esqr.
Charles Jarvis Esqr.
Stephen Higginson Esqr.
Mr. Thomas Walley
Honble. Caleb Davis Esqr.
Isaac Sears Esqr.

be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid to Report at the Adjournment of this Meeting

The Committee appointed to wait on Governor Hancock — Reported that having waited on the Governor agreeable to the direction of the Town, His Excellency had delivered to them a Deposition taken in Connecticut, and an Original Paper of great importance

The said Papers having been laid before the Town, it was moved that the same be read & they were accordingly read

[152.] Moved & Voted, that there be an Addition of two Persons to the Committee relative to an illicit trade

Voted, that Robert T. Payne Esqr.
Samuel Broom Esqr.

be added to said Committee

Moved & Voted, that Adam Babcock Esqr.

be added to the aforegoing Committee

Moved and Voted, that it be recommended to the Inhabitants at large, that they communicate to the Committee relative to an illicit Trade such Ideas or Information as they shall Apprehend may be useful

Moved & Voted, that the Town Clerk furnish the Committee aforesaid with Copies of the Papers, received from the Governer

Moved & Voted, that when this Meeting is Adjourned, it shall be to Fryday next. 3. OClock Afternoon then to Meet in this place

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

Fryday the 6 Day of September 1782 — Met according to Adjournment 3. O.Clock P.M.

The Committee appointed to consider what Steps are proper to be taken on the alarming and distructive Length to which an illicit [**153.**] Trade with our Enemies is now carried on — represented as follows

The Artful and insidious Cabinet of Britain, sensible of the Inefficacy of their Fleets and Armies to enslave America and hitherto disappointed in their Expectations from Bribery & Corruption, (Engines, which to their Astonishment, have proved of no use, when Applied to the Free Sons of America, thô. in common with the most Successfull of all Means to subdue Mankind to the Will of Tyrants) have in the excess of their Folly and Lust of Domination, Adopted the Absurd Idea of Subjugating America, by throwing in upon us a Flood of their Manufactures and Incouraging a Commercial Intercourse between us and them — For this purpose their Admirals and Generals appear to have Assumed the Character of Custom House Officers, Brokers, & such Other as may be necessary to facilitate their Views. By this Trade they expect to destroy that great, that mutual Confidence so happily subsisting between us & our Magnanimous Allies; to revive that foolish Predilection which We once had for British Manufactures and British Manners; to Open to themselves new Avenues and acquire fresh Means of instilling the Principles of Toryism and sowing the Seeds of Disaffection Among the weak & unwary; to send their Emissaries into all parts of the Continent to forment Divisions, create distrust as to our Rulers and by the Meanest and [**154.**] the vilest Arts to distroy that happy Union which has hitherto been, & while it continues cannot fail (under God) *to be our sure Rock of Defence* — And Above all to drain us of our Money, the Sinews of War: having drawn from us our Medium in this Way, having made their Arrangements, posted their Emissaries, and secured their Partizens they expect by a violent run on our National Credit, and to deprive us of all future Means of Defence Such are clearly their Views & these are the Mean Arts which haughty, though *fallen* Britain, is compelled to make use of. — To the disgrace of America, a few of her Sons, blinded by the Lure, & devoid of all Principle, have catched at the Bait: and misled by Avarice, have taken the high Road to *Infamy* and Ruin

The United States in Congress Assembled, sensible of these Evils, and Attentive to the safety of their Constituents, have in every Instance within their Jurisdiction by their Ordinances, endeavoured to suppress such illegall Commerce, Trade and Intercourse & in other Instances recommended to the Legislatures of the several States to make effectual Provision, by Laws for that purpose, and called on the People to give Aid in carrying such Laws into Effect.

The Inhabitants of Boston in Town Meeting Assembled, determined ever to be watchfull of their common Rights and [**155.**] Liberties, and Attentive to the publick Safety — sensible of the evil & destructive Tendency of such Trade & Intercourse — impressed with the necessaity of restraining it, — of Testifying their Abhorrence of such Base Practices — and giving all Possible Aid in the Execution of the Laws, do enter into the following Resolutions

First that we will exert ourselves to the Utimost to detect & bring to due Punishment all those who shall import Goods from Any Part of the British Dominions, and particularly from any Post held by the British in America; or any Goods of British Growth or Manufacture thrô. any Foreign Ports, other than those Allowed by Law; or who may be directly or indirectly concerned in sending Money to any of those Posts. — or who shall encourage or promote Any Kind of Intercourse with the Enemy.

2^d^. That the Delacacy which some People Affect to feel, as to giving information, or making a Complaint of those who are engaged in such Vile Pursuits, is false and Absurd in its nature; Arrising from wrong Ideas of the Path of Honour; and the Line of Duty — That in cases like this to become Informer, is to be the Patriot, and it ought so to be considered by all those who regard the Publick Weal

3^dly^. That this Town will therefore not only countenance, & support all those who may be vigilent and active in detecting [**156.**] Informing, or Complaining of such Enemies to their Country; but will always use them as Characters highly deserving Respect and Esteem

4^th^. That we will on the Contrary, esteem all those, who appear to be concerned in such infamous Traffick, as Enemies to our Freedom and Happiness wholly unfit to reside among Freemen: & we will by withdrawing all Intercourse from them & by treating them, on all Occasions, with Disrespect & Indignity, equal to their Demerit, convince them, that Americans cannot Associate with such base Characters.

5^th^. That in every Instance where Opposition may be made to the execution of the Laws prohibiting such Trade and Intercourse we Will give all possible Aid to the Executive Branch of Government in carrying those Laws into Effect

6^th^. That our Representatives in the General Court be and hereby are Instructed to urge an immediate and Attentive Revision of the Laws of this State, respecting Trade & Intercourse with the Enemy, that all Necessary Alterations & Amendments may be speedily made

7^th^. That the Committee of Correspondence Inspection & safety of this Town, be and hereby are desired to be particular watchful of those who are suspected of being concerned in Trade or Intercourse with the Enemy and to communicate to the Attorney General any Discoveries they may make

8th. That as any Individual has a Right to Inspect all Packages of Goods that are transporting **[157.]** as well by Land as Water, and to seize all such Goods as may appear to be illegally Imported in either of those Ways it is earnestly recommended to the Inhabitants of this Town individually to examine all such packages as they may have reason to Suspect unless the Conductor thereof shall produce to them Certificates or other Satisfactory Evedence that such Packages contain no Goods Subject to Seizure

9th. That this Town do hereby recomend an Association to be immediately formed by such worthy Persons as shall Voluntarily engage therein, vigilantly, to guard against the Danger of such Goods being Artfully run into it under cover of the Night; and reposing great Confidence in the Zeal and Virtue of such Associators, do rely upon the most diligent Watch being kept in such Numbers as they shall think Sufficient to prevent this Atrocious Bussiness, by the most Carefull Inspection and Examination of all such suspected Persons, Vessells, Waggons &c as shall be met with in the Course of their Duty. And the Selectmen are hereby instructed to give orders to the Town Watch to patrol the Streets, and Wharves, with the special Intent of detecting this Illicit Trade, as well as to preserve the Peace and Order of The Town in the Night

10th. That a Circular Letter be written to our Brethren in the other Towns in this State, to be signed by the Town Clerk, in the Name of this Town, containing the foregoing Resolutions, being the Measures which this Town has Adopted to Suppress this Shameful Traffick and to pray their Assistance in effecting so laudable a Purpose

[158.] The Town having considered and Accepted the foregoing Resolutions proceeded to the Consideration of a Circular Letter, also reported by the Committee, which was Accepted

The Town Voted, that the Selectmen be instructed to procure such a Number of Printed Copies of the aforesaid Resolutions and Letter, as they should Judge Necessary & Transmit them, Signed by the Clerk to the Selectmen or Committee of the Several Towns, and Plantations Accordingly.

The Circular Letter is as follows Vizt.

Boston 6th. September 1782

Gentelmen

The rapid and distructive Progress of an Illicit trade with the British in their different Ports on this Continent has filled the Inhabitants of this Town with the Most Alarming Apprehensions. As it is not Surprising that a Cruel and Insidious Enemy so Often disgraced by the failure of their Other efforts to Accomplish the ruin of this Country should have recourse to this last expedition from which they undoubtedly expect the Most important benefits, it is easy to see Gentelmen, that the continuance of this Pernicious Trafflict must necessarily involve the want of a Sufficient Medium for the Common purpose of Society — A circumstance, should it unfortunately happen, which must soon distroy the pecuniary and indispensable resources [**159.**] of the Goverment, and by giving a deep wound to our Military Opperations so Necessary for our defence, endanger the very being of this Commonwealth

Impressed with these Sentiments this Town has thought proper, at a Meeting of its Inhabitants, legally Convened for this express purpose, to communicate the inclosed resolutions, for your Serious Consideration, in the fullest confidence of your Adopting such Measures as in giving vigor to the Laws must undoubtedly contribute to the Total extirpation of such an unnatural commerce

As we are sensible that the efficacy of the best plan for the Attainment of so Salutary An Object, must at last depend on the united efforts of the Towns in this goverment — We Trust in such An interisting conjuncture, that the Patriotick Ardor which has so long and uniformly distinguished the Inhabitants of this State, will induce the most Zealous concurrence in these or similar Measures which can have no other Object but the publick good

On a Motion Voted, that the Selectmen be directed to transmit the Circular Letter when printed to the Selectmen of each Town & Plantation, and in their Absence to the Committee of Correspondence Inspection and Safety

[**160.**] Voted, that all Matters & things which remain unfinished at this Meeting be and hereby are refered over to the next General Town Meeting that may be called

On a Motion, Voted, that it be recommended to the several Printers in the Town to publish the foregoing Resolutions, and Circular Letter in their respective News Papers

Moved and Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby are given to the Hon^{ble}. Samuel Adams Esq^{r}. Moderator for his good services in the dispatch given to the business of the Meeting

Then the Meeting was dissolved

At a Meeting of the Freeholders & Other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified & legally warned in publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneiuel Hall on Saturday the 7th Day of December Anno Domini 1782. 10. OClock Forenoon

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read

The Inhabitants were directed by the Selectmen to withdraw & bring in their Votes for a Moderator and the same being brought in and sorted, it appeared, that

The Hon^{ble}: Samuel Adams Esq^{r}.

was chosen unanimously

[**161.**] The Article in the Warrant — Viz^{t}. "To consider of some suitable Method of shewing the Gratitude and Respect of the Town to the Army and Navy of his most Christian Majesty, was read. — whereupon — It was moved and Voted, that

The Hon^{ble}. Samuel Adams Esq^{r}.
The Hon^{ble}. James Sullivan Esq^{r}.
William Cooper — Esq^{r}.

be a Committee to prepare an Address to His Excellency the Baron Viomenil General & Commander in Chief of the Forces of his Most Christian Majesty, lately arrived in this Town pursuant to the Warrant for calling the Meeting — & to Report at the Adjournment

Moved & Voted, that this Committee be directed to withdraw, and Report as soon as may be

The Committee to prepare an Address Report the following Draught of one which being read and considered by the Town — the Question was put Whether the same shall be accepted — Passed in the Affermative — unanimously

To his Excellency the Baron Viomenil General and Commander of the Forces of his most Christian Majesty in the United States of America

Sir

The Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston legally Assembled [**162.**] in Faneiul Hall congratulate your Excellency on your safe Arrival at the Capital of this Commonwealth

It is with particular Pleasure that we embrace this Oppertunity of testefying the Singular Respect with which we regard your Excellency, and the gallant Troops under your Command; sent by his most Christian Majesty the illustrious Ally of the United States, to their Succor and Crowned in this Service with the most brilliant Success and permanent Honors

We Assure your Excellency that no part of the United States, can be impressed More deeply with every Sentiment, becoming the Most faithful Allies, towards, the King your Sovereign, and the Nation which he governs with so much Glory, or can entertain a higher Sense of the great Merits of his Land & Naval Forces in America, than the Inhabitants of Boston. Our whole Country Attest the perfect Discipline, the uncommon good Order and Civility which these Forces have constantly preserved; a Circumstance among many Others which while it leaves the most agreeable Impression on the Minds of the Inhabitants in every Quarter, and must be extremely favourable to the publick Friendship, cannot but at the same time hightein our Regard at their Departure. — Wherever these Forces may still be employed, May Heaven defend their Persons, prosper their value, and add new Glories to *their* Names and to that of their *Nation*

Your Excellency we are sure will be [**163.**] pleased, that upon this Occasion we do not forget to mention with the Utmost Respect the Name of Count Roshambeau your Predecessor in this important Command, whose distinguished Services in America can never be forgotten, and to whom also we ardently wish every Felicity.

May the happy Alliance with France never be dissolved or impaired in the support of which Such Expences have been incurred — Such Toils endured — such invaluable Lives exposed — Such great Actions displayed, and such genourious Blood Offered —

And may the reciprocal Fruits of it to both Nations be perpetually augmented

On a Motion made — Ordered, That the Honourable Samuel Adams Esq^{r}. the Moderator, the Honourable James Sullivan Esq^{r}. and Samuel Barret Esq^{r}. together with the Gentelmen the Selectmen be and hereby are appointed a Committee to wait upon his Excellency the Baron Viomenil General and Commander of the Forces of his most Christian Majesty, with this Address — Then the

Meeting was dissolved

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Wednesday the fourth Day of December Anno Domini. 1782 10. O'Clock in the Forenoon

[164.] The Warrant for calling the Meeting read

The Inhabitants were then directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for a Moderator of this Meeting, and the same being accordingly brought in and sorted, it it appeared, that

Benjamin Kent Esq^{r}.

was chosen Moderator

The Act intitled an Act "for the more effectual Observation of the Lords Day" was read, — also

The Article in the Warrant that the Inhabitants would agreeable to a late Act of the General Court, to choose twelve Wardens to serve the remainder of the year — was read — and after considerable debate had thereon — it was Moved

That the consideration of the choice of Wardens be suspended untill the General Town Meeting in March next — And the Question being accordingly put — Passed in the Affermative

On a Motion, Voted, that a Committee be now chosen to draw up a Memorial to the General Court, in order to State the Reasons why the Law intitled an Act for the more effectual Observation of the Lords 'Day, Militates with the Constitution — **[165.]** as also with respect to the inexpediency of said Act — and to report the Draught of a Memorial at the Adjournment of this Meeting — also

Voted, that Col^{o}. Tudor
D^{r}. Charles Jarvis
Perez Mourton Esq^{r}.
The Hon^{ble}: James Sullivan
Benjamin Hitchbourn Esq^{r}.

be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

Moved and Voted, that when this Meeting is Adjourned it shall be to Wednesday next being the eleventh Day of December Instant. Ten O.Clock in the Forenoon

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

10. OClock. Forenoon December 11th. Met according to Adjournment

Benjamin Kent Esq^{r}. the Moderator of the Meeting, not

Attending, it was moved and Voted, that the Town proceed to the choice of a Moderator Pro Tem^{o}. when

Samuel Barret Esq^{r}.

was chosen Moderator accordingly

The Committee appointed to present the Address of the Town to his Excellency — The Baron Viomenil General and Commander of the Forces of his Most Christian Majesty in the United States

[**166.**] Reported that they had presented said Address, to which the Baron had been pleased to make Reply — which Reply being presented in French and English, they now laid before the Town

The Reply in English was read to the Town, and is as follows — Viz^{t}.

Gentlemen

It belonged to the Count de Rochambeau much more than to myself to receive those distinguished and flattering Testimonies which you have been pleased to give to the conduct of the Troops, placed by the choice and confidence of the King, in his hands in order to serve the cause of your Liberty — It is by persuing the intentions of his Majesty, and the Orders, the particular Instructions and the example of the General which he gave us that we have been able to inspire you with these Sentiments of esteem and Attachment of which you now Assure us in expressions that do us the greatest honor

All the principal Officers of this Army, are, as well as myself, Gentlemen, extremely touched with your Suffrage in their favor; it in a manner insures to them the approbation of the King, and is a very flattering recompence for the care they have taken to maintain Discipline in the Regiments which they command; the other Officers by whom they have been perfectly secured, will also be penetrated with the same sentiments; And the whole Army [**167.**] see with Satisfaction, how thoroughly you are perswaded, that it is the perfect Union that has reigned between the American Troops the Marine of the King and the French Corps under the Orders, of the Count de Rochambeaue, that France and the United States are indebted for that Success you so kindly applaud

Permit me also Gentlemen to seize the present moment for declaring to you our Admiration of the virtues, the talents, and the accomplishments, which so particularly distinguish his Excellency General Washington. We all desire that the homage of our respects, and of our warm wishes for his preservation and happiness, may be agreeable to him as a testimony of the Satisfaction we have had in serving under his Orders

I may venture to assure you beforehand, Gentlemen, that the King will very sensibly feel the good wishes which the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston have so ardently made for the glory of his Reign and the prosperity of the Nation which he governs. The disinterestedness and the wisdom of the views, of his Majesty in all that he has done for the support of the Independence of America do not admit a doubt that the next destination of this Army will still contribute with efficacey to the Compleate establishment of that Object. To whatever part of the Earth his Orders may send it, all who compose this Corps will ever remember with **[168.]** much sensibility, the pleasing wishes you have expressed for us on our departure

The Assurances of your Affection, and the expression of your desires for the Maintainance of the Alliance which his Majesty regards, as one of those happy events that has marked his Reign having not the least Room to doubt of the duration of this Union. or of the great Advantages that will result from it to the two Nations in all times to come

For myself nothing Gentelmen could flatter me more, than the particular marks you have been pleased to give me of your esteem. I beg you to accept, together with all the thanks I owe to you, my most sincere respects and my assurances, that I shall ever form the warmest wishes for the prosperity of the United States in general, and for the happiness of the Citizens of Boston in particular

Moved and Voted. — That the Town Clerk be directed to publish in the News Papers at the expence of the Town — the Address of the Inhabitants to the Count de Rashambeau the General of the French Army, together with the Reply made to said Address in both languages

Moved and Voted, that when this Meeting is Adjourned it shall be to Wednesday next. 3. O.Clock in the Afternoon

The Article in the Warrant Viz^t^. — "To consider what allowance shall be made **[169.]** M^r^. Isaac Warren for loss sustained on Monies he received for Shoes supplied the Town" — was read — and after some debate it was moved, that the further consideration be referred to the Adjournment of this Meeting

Adjourned as by a preceeding Vote to Wednesday next being the 18th. of December Ins^t^. 3. O.Clock in the Afternoon

Wednesday the 18th. Day of December 3. O.Clock Afternoon — Met according to Adjournment

Benjamin Kent Esq^r^. in the Chair

The Committee to draw up a Memorial to the General Court relative to the late Act for the better observation of the Lords Day being called upon to Report

Col^o^. Tudor the Chairman of said Committee being in the Meeting, acquainted the Town the Committee had not as yet been able to make Report — and therefore they desired the Town to allow them a further time for that purpose — whereupon

Moved and Voted, that when this Meeting is Adjourned, it shall be to Fryday seven Night at three O'Clock in the Afternoon

Moved and Voted, that the Town Clerk acquaint the Inhabitants in the News Papers of the Adjournment of this Meeting and that the Committee relative to the Lords Day Act are then to Report

[170.] The Article in the Warrant Viz^t^. — "To consider what allowance shall be made M^r^. Isaac Warren for Loss sustained on Monies he received for Shoes he supplied the Town" was read whereupon it was moved that a Committee of three be Appointed to take this Article into consideration, and to make Report as soon as may be

This Motion having been carried Ezekiel Price Esq^{r}. was chosen one of the Committee, but having desired the Town to excuse him he was accordingly excused — It was then moved and Obtained that the Vote for choosing three Persons on this Committee be reconsidered, and that

The Gentelmen the Selectmen be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid, they are desired to make Report to the Town at the Adjournment

The Article in the Warrant Viz^{t}. — "To consider whether any Measures shall be taken relative to the Sweeping of Chimnies" — whereupon moved and Voted, that a Committee be appointed to consider this Article and Report to the Town there Opinion thereon at the Adjournment of this Meeting

Voted, that Samuel Broom Esq^{r}.
Col^{o}. William Tudor
Col^{o}. Daws
Col^{o}. Sears
D^{r}. Noyes

be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

[171.] Then this Meeting was Adjourned to Fryday the 27th. Day of December Ins^{t}. 3. O.Clock in the Afternoon

Wednesday (Friday) the 27th. Day of December 3. O'Clock Afternoon — Met According to Adjournment

The Committee relative to M^{r}. Warren Reported; when it was moved, and Voted that the Report lay upon the Table for the present

The Committee relative to Chimnies Reported, which Report having been read and considered, it was moved & Voted, that the Report be recommitted, in order for the Committee to draw up a By Law relative to the Matters, contained in said Report — and to lay the same before the Town at the Adjournment

The Committee relative to the Act for the better Observation of the Lords Day — Reported the Draught of a Memorial to the General Court, which having been read & considered by the Town in Paragraphs — the Question was put Whether the same shall be accepted — Passed in the Affermative

The Memorial is as follows — Viz^{t}. Commonwealth of Massachusetts

To the honourable the Senate & the honorable the House of Representatives in General Court Assembled at Boston Jan^{y}. 1783

[172.] The Freeholders & Other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston legally convened in Faneuil Hall by Adjournment on the 27th. of December 1782. beg leave, humbly to represent their Solicitude at the Appearance of an Act passed in the last Session of the honourable Court "For the more effectual Observation of the Lords Day" — We are by no Means insensible to the Impropriety of those Disorders on the Sabath, the Prevention of which is the declared Object of the Law in Question; As we firmly believe that but few People have paid a more becomeing & regular Attention to a Day, which our Policy & Religion have both consecrated to Rest & Devotion, than the Citizens of this Town. — We fear however, that this Law, strained beyond the Line of Expediency, if not of the Constitution (the Barrier of our Civil and Religious Liberty) must defeat its own Purposes; & so far from the Benefits expected, will be productive only of those disorders, which it is intended to prevent

In our present Opposition of Sentiment to that of the honourable Court it is a Source of very pleasing Reflection that the present is the only Instance where its Commands have not met the most ready & ever Chearful Acquiescence. Nor is it without the utmost Respect as well as sincere Attachment to the Constitutional Guardians of their Liberties, that the Inhabitants of Boston now presume to Offer their Objections to an Act in the Event of which they are deeply and essentially interested.

[**173.**] Having made these Assurances — We presume they will serve us for an Apology (if an Apology can be necessary to give a Sanction to the Remonstrance of Freemen to their Governors) in laying before your honours the Reasons which operated in our Minds, as well on the Score of Expediency, as in a constitutional View, to effect a Repeal of this Obnoxious Statue — It needs only to be suggested to your Honours that the difficulty of executing a Law, is by no Means a trivial Objection to its Existance, where the Urgency of the Case does not render it indispensible. The Confusion and Necessities unavoidably Attendant on a State of War, will never Admit of that perfect Repose which is the Companion only of Peace. To put a Stop to those Employments which the Past & present Exigences of State have rendered indispensible equally at all times, would be highly burthensome to the People if not dangerious to the Safety of the Commonwealth. The War has introduced amongst us many Citizens of foreign States, the Benefit of whose Friendship & Assistance, We have largely experienced; & who though denominated Subjects of Monarchies, where will is Law — have never been controuled in the Exercise of those first and original Rights of Nature, peaceably walking in, and breathing a free Air; Against these People therefore Policy as well as a Regard to our National Carrecter forbids the Execution of this unnatural Statute; And to [**174.**] distinguish those who are in this Predicament, from the Natives of the State, will excite Complaints at least from many Against a Law which must be partial in its Operation & unequal in its Effects. — In Another View the Inexpediency & Impolicy of the Act is strikingly obivious; The Officers who are appointed to execute it, while they are Vested with extraordinary Powers, & are supernumerary in their Nature will forever be obnoxious to the People at large. For any Discription of Men to be impowered forceably to stop the Subject, who is quietly Passing the publick Streets & to demand of him a Reason why he occupies that Space, or breaths that Air in preferance to any Other is so humiliating an Authority & so insulting an Interrogatory as no Freeman can submit to: While the Warden shrouding himself under the Sanction of the Statue & fancying like Paul in the time of his Infidelity in persecuting the Christians, he is doing God's service, may persist in the Insult, and a Breach of the Peace will probably ensue. — The Act therefore instead of being a Security to the peaceful Devotions of the Religious will become the Instrument of their Disturbance.

The general Aversion to the Machinery of Wardens is heightened, when it is seen that the Civil Magistrates, and the ordinary executive Officers are sufficient for the Preservation of the Peace & good Order of the Community six days out of Seven. — And the People can see no Reason why the same Magistrates [**175.**] and the same executive Officers should not be considered as competent to the same purpose on the remaining seventh Day: Unless the Wardens, though created by civil Authority are in fact intended as Officers of Religion, set up to direct & controul in Matters of Conscience. — This Idea whether just or not, will forever keep alive a Prejudice against them, which may frequently endanger the Civil Peace.

May it please your Honours.

In a constitutional View of the Act, the Inhabitants of this Town (Although they consider themselves as the unquestionable Judges, at least for the Purpose of remonstrating, whether a Statute made to effect them, exceeds the Line of the Constitution or not) are sorry to have Occasion thus early to oppose their Sentements to those of their Legislators upon so important a Subject: Confident However that no Legislature upon Earth are more ready to here & attend to the decent & manly Remonstrances of their Constituents, or any part of them, than ours. We are Sure to have the Matter candidly revised & discussed & judiciously determined. The Laying different Restraints & Penalties in the same place; the making that Act a Crime for one Class of Citizens; which is not so for another, & the Annexing unequal Punishments to the same Offence in different parts of the Commonwealth (though generaly considered As strong Exceptions to any Law under a free Goverment) are however [**176.**] in this Instance merged in the more substantial Objections to it

For We humbly conceive this Act militates with the Spirit if not the Letter of the Constitution. By that original solem Compact by which the whole People have covenanted with each Individual & each Individual with the whole People, every natural Right is Secured to the Citizen which is not surrendered in unequivocal Terms — Liberty in its most simple & Obvious Sense; the Liberty of moveing, from one Place to another is so far from being one of those Natural Rights which the People of this Commonwealth have surrendered that we esteem it one of the dearest Gifts of God to Man, & the Preservation of it among the primary Objects of the social Compact, the Legislature therefore can neither destroy or restrain it, but as a necessary Punishment for the Commission of a Crime: It must involve in it the highest Absurdity to make the simple Exercise of this Right a Crime in itself for which the Subject (in addition to the loss of his Enjoyment) shall suffer an expensive & disgraceful Punishment.

We beg leave in a few Instances to compare or rather to contrast the Constitution with the Act. By the Bill of Rights it is expressly declared that no Subject shall be held to answer for any Crimes or Offence untill the same is fully & plainly substantially & formally described Agreeable to the Formalities prescribed by Law, "And that every Subject has a Right [**177.**] to be secured from all unreasonable Searches & Seizures of his Person &c. by the Statute the Warden is empowered to Answer for a Breach of this Act, without any Formalities prescribed by the Laws. — By the Bill of Rights it is declared that no Subject shall be compelled to accuse or furnish Evidence against himself — The Act Subjects a Man to Imprisonment without Limitation, Unless he will not only furnish the Warden with Evidence of his Name, but accuse himself of a criminal Persuit if he has any

By the Bill of Rights, it is expressly declared that the executive shall not exercise the Legislative & Judicial Powers, or either of them; By the Act, the Warden is an executive Officer, with a Power of imprisoning or executing at his Discretion

A bare Recital of these Circumstances we presume (even if the Principals upon which the Act is founded were otherwise perfectly unaceptionable) are sufficient to demonstrate its Unconstitutionality in the Mode of Proceedure should it be adopted & such a Power given to the Wardens, most of the offence defined in the Statute would go unpunished

As we conceive upon the fundamental Principles of a free Goverment, if the Constitution had been altogether silent upon the Subject, that the Necessity of lodging such Powers in the Hands of the Wardens & Obliging the Party to be his own Accuser [**178.**] to carry it into Execution, would forever remaine an unanswerable Objection to the Act; We should hardly expect an Argument of this kind in its Support, since it appears so clearly opposed, both to the Letter and the Spirit of the Bill of Rights, for it would be a very Singular Mode of Reasoning, upon any other Subject, to countenance the Violation of a Rule by giving Existance to the very Mischief it was calculated to Destroy

It may be contended that the Bill of Rights clearly implies an Authority in the General Court to make such an Act, because they are expressly impowered "To provide for the Institution of the Publick" Worship of God, & for the Support and Maintenance of Publick "Protestant Teachers of Piety Religion & Morality," "and to enjoin An Attendance upon such Teachers at stated Times & Seasons, if there be any on whose Instruction they can conscientiously and "conveniently" Attend. "That the Legislature have, in Virtue of this Authority a Right to confine the free People of this Commonwealth within the Walls of their own Houses for one whole Day in seven except such part of the Day only as may be employed in the Publick Worship of God: But we humbly conceive the Bill of Rights countenances no such Authority. The only Power given to the Legislature by the Paragraphs recited was to provide for the Institution of the Publick Worship, for the Support and Maintenance of Publick Teachers of Piety Religion & Morality & to enjoin an [**179.**] Attendance upon such

Teachers, without the remotest Reference to or Connection with any Other Objects; And if the Legislature can from this Part of the Bill of Rights deduce such Authority, why may they not with equal Propriety, for the same space of Time, consign the Subject to the Stocks or the Pillory, as well as make him a Prisoner within the Walls of his own House. There is certainly a Degree of ignominious Restraint, in either of them, equally Abhorrent, to the pure Principles of Religion, as averse to every Idea of Civil Freedom

That Clause of the Statute, which imposes a Penalty on him, who shall Absent himself from Publick Worship for a certain space of Time (though the provision of it seems to adopt part of the Letter of the 3^d^. Article of the Bill of Rights) we conceive either to be Nugatory & useless, or contrary to the true meaning of the very Clause in the Bill of Rights it intends to comprahend — If its meant by this Clause of the Law that the Individual is to be the Sole Judge of his own Conscience we Ask, for what purpose is the penalty Annexed to the Breach of it. for as no other person can have the Right to pronounce him guilty, and as he cannot be compelled to criminate himself his Guilt must remaine forever unproved, and the Law in this view be rendered fruitless & void

But if, as another part of the Statute provides the breach of this Clause as well as [**180.**] others is to be tried on Issue at Law, And the Individuals Conscience is to be squared by the Rules of other Mens. we conceive it to be unconstitutional; because as the Worship of the Deity, and the Rights of Conscience in the Duties of Religion are unquestionably between God and the Individual alone, they must be ranked among those unalienable Rights, we cannot delegate to Society, and which are so explicitly secured to us by the first Article of the Bill of Rights: nor does any Other part of the Constitution justify a contrary Idea; for that Clause in the 3^d^. Article which invests the Legislature with Authority to *enjoin* an Attendance upon publick worship, can Mean no more, than to give them a Right to *recommend* it to the People, as essential to their Happiness. — We are justified in this Construction, because there is no power given to the Legislature by that clause, to annex a penalty or Punishment to the Non Observence of such Injunctions.

A Power to *enjoin*, without a Right to enforce the Injunction cannot amount to more than a Right to *Recommend*:

And if it had been intended they should have the Power to enforce their Injunctions with the Penalties &c. why is not the Constitution explicit on so interesting a point; its Silence, and the Repugnancy of the Principle to every Idea of Freedom, together with its consequential militation with other parts of the Constitution — We therefore conclude [**181.**] this Clause of the Act, though ostensibly adopting, in the proviso of it, the Letter of a Clause in the Bill of Rights, is however contrary to the real Letter & Spirit of the whole Constitution.

But to bury all the Objections to this Act in one uncertain principal it is urged, That the General Court must have a Right to enact such Laws as have a tendency to promote the General Good. — That the present Act having that Good for its sole Object, can be Objected to only on Account of its inexpediency; and hence it is infered, that though the people at large may have a Right to Judge in Case of a direct violation of the Constitution, yet when the Question is merely to, the inexpediency of an Act, the General Court alone must be Judges in the last Resort

This is an Argument, which has seldom failed of Success in depriving a free People of their Liberties; but this like the Others, when brought to the Test or Original principles & the Constitution will be found false & inconclusive

"Though it always has been difficult, if not impossible to determine upon the very nice Line, between the Constitutional Authority for the supreme Legislative and the unalienated Rights of the People. We suppose there are Cases, among which the present may be safely Ranked, [182.] in which the extreme Inexpediency of the Measures must render it perfectly unconstitutional; since to allow the Legislature; a Right of enacting such Laws as from their extreme Inexpediency must produce the Most dangerous Convulsions in the State, would be to grant them a power of defeating the very End of the Social Compact, Whenever then the Legislature Shall assume the Right of making such Laws, we think ourselves Authorized by the Spirit of the free Constitution We live under, to declare our Sentiments — We therefore pray your Honours that a Statute, so Apparently inexpedient & unequal & as we apprehend repugnant to those civil & religious Liberties, secured to us by the Declaration of Rights may be forthwith repealed and another be Adopted more congenial to the principles of the Constitution and the Spirit and Sentiments of free Citizens

Moved and Voted, that a Committee be appointed to present the foregoing Memorial to the General Court, and that this Committee consist of ten Persons

Voted, that Charles Jarvis Esq^{r}.
Perez Morton Esq^{r}.
Leonard Jarvis Esq^{r}.
Benjamin Hitchbourn Esq^{r}.
William Tudor Esq^{r}.
Samuel Brick Esq^{r}.
[183.] John Lucas Esq^{r}.
M^{r}. James Jarvis
Isaac Sears Esq^{r}.
Joseph Barrel Esq^{r}.

be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

On a Motion Voted, that the Gentelmen who Represent this Town in the General Court be and hereby are Instructed, to support the foregoing Memorial in the General Court

Voted, that this Meeting be Adjourned to Thursday next. 3. O.Clock Afternoon

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

Thursday the second Day of January 1783. 3. O'Clock Afternoon — Met according to Adjournment

The Committee to take into consideration " what allowance shall be made Mr. Isaac Warren for loss sustained on Monies he received for Shoes Supplied the Town beg leave to Report

That it appears to the Selectmen that the said Warrens loss on receiving two hundred and forty two Pounds in Certificates, instead of Specie Amounts to the Sum of Twenty four Pounds four Shillings — They therefore recommend to the Town that he may have a Draught from the Selectmen on the Town Treasurer for said Sum of twenty four pounds four Shillings

John Scollay Chairman p Order

[**184.**] The foregoing Report having been read and considered — the Question was put — Whether the same shall be Accepted — Passed in the Affermative

The Clause in the Warrant Vizt. To consider what shall be allowed the Town School Masters for their services from the first of September last" — was read and considered, whereupon

Voted, that the Sum of One hundred Pounds be allowed and paid unto Mr. Samuel Hunt for his Salary as Master of the South Grammer School for six Months commencing from the first September last, the same to be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due

Voted, that the Sum of One hundred Pounds be allowed and paid unto Mr. Nathan Davis for his Salary as Master of the North Grammer School for six Months commencing from the first of September last, the same to be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due

Voted, that the Sum of Ninety five pounds be allowed and paid unto Mr. James Carter — for his Salary as Master of the Writing School in Queen Street for Six Months commencing from the 1t: of September last the same to be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due

[**185.**] Voted, the Sum of Ninety five pounds be allowed and paid to Mr. John Tileston for his Salary as Master of the North Writing School for six Months commencing from the 1st. of September last, the same to be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due

Voted, that the sum of Ninety five pounds be allowed and paid unto Mr. John Vinal for his Salary as Master of the Writing School for six Months commencing from 1t. of September last, the same be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due

Voted, the sum of Fifty pounds be allowed and paid unto Mr. [Samuel Payson?] for his Salary as Usher of the South Grammer School for six Months commencing from the 1t. of September last, the same to be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due

Voted, that Mr. John Tileston Master of the North Writing School be allowed Twenty Pounds for six Months House Rent the Same to be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due & to commence from the 1st. of September last.

Voted, that Mr. Nathan Davis Master of the North Grammar School be allowed and paid for Six Months House rent Twenty pounds the same to be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due & to commence from the 1st. of September last

[186.] Voted, that Mr. John Vinal Master of the Writing School in the Common be allowed and paid for six Months House rent the sum of Twenty pounds to be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due & to commence from the 1t. of September last

It was moved & Voted, that the Report of a Committee some time past relative to David Jeffries Esqr. which has been accepted be now reconsidered — also

Voted, that the Above Report be recomitted, and that said Committee be desired to take into consideration and Report as soon as may be what they shall Judge should be allowed the late Treasurer Jeffries for all his services to the present time — sent

Moved and seconded that a List of the Persons, and their Taxes which have not been Collected by the several Collectors be recommitted to the Assessors, and that they be and hereby are impowered to make such Abatements thereof as they shall Judge it was not then, neither is now in the power of the said Collectors to receive

And the Question being accordingly put — Passed in the Affermative

Adjourned to Wednesday next Three O'Clock Afternoon

[187.] Wednesday the 8th. Day of January 1783 Three O'Clock Afternoon — met according to Adjournment

Benjamin Kent Esqr. in the Chair

Moved & Voted, that Ezekiel Price Esqr. be excused from serving on the Committee to whom is referred the consideration of what may be due to the late Town Treasurer for all his services to the present time

Voted, that Nathl. Appleton Esqr.
Edward Payne Esqr.

be added to the foregoing Committee who are to make Report to the Town as soon as may be

"The Article in the Warrant Vizt. To consider and determin What shall be allowed the Assessors for their services in that Office" — was read — whereupon it was moved and Seconded, that the Town now determin what the Assessors shall be allowed for their services p Day — And the Question being put — Passed in the Negative

Moved and Voted, that when this Meeting is Adjourned, it shall be to Monday next being the thirteenth Day of January at 3. O.Clock in the Afternoon

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned.

[188.] Monday the 13th. Day of January 1783 3 O.Clock Afternoon — Met according to Adjournment

The Committee relative to Chimnies laid before the Town their Report which being read and considered paragraph by paragraph was amended in Meeting and Accepted by the Town and is as follows Vizt.

That the Gentelmen the Selectmen be desired to Advertise for some suitable person to undertake the Sweeping of Chimnies who shall have an *exclusive right* on condition, that he contract with them in behalf of the Town, in such a Manner as to Answer the purpose intended. Whos title shall be known by the Name of a Comptroller. And as the following outlines of a plan and Estimate may be serviciable in shewing the propriety of the Measure; it is Offered for consideration. Supposing 1800 Dwelling Houses and 3 funnells to a House the Number is 5400 and if necessary to be swept THREE times in a year they will be equal to 16200 Funnells and at the price Chimnies are *now* swept Viz^{t}. 3/6 one with another will amount to £2835. And it is presumed they may be swept for £810 which is only one shilling p Chimney, and a saving made of more than £2000 p Annum if some such plan as the following be Adopted Viz^{t}. One Master not to exceed — £200 p Annum **[189.]** at the discretion of the Selectmen
6 Sweepers - - - - - - - - @ £100 — 600
Brooms & Scrapers - - - - - - - - - - 10 - - £810
each Sweeper to have two Wards, or what is equal in funniels to one sixth part of the whole (to be under the direction of the Master) which will give him 9 funnels p Day & 300 Working Days in the year will compleat his 2700 or 6th. part. Six Sweepers upon this Estimate, will sweep the 16200 funnells or the 1800 Houses 3 funnell each 3 Times in a year. — The Master may easily have the Dwelling Houses from the Assessors Books which will readily give him the funnells commonly in use. And as some Chimnies may require sweeping Oftener and others not, it is supposed that the Estimate is full high, but the experience of one year will make it more certain. It is not doubted, but an Act of Goverment may be obtained (if their is not one already sufficient for the purpose) to empower the Town, if Agreeable to them; to Oblidge the Inhabitants under a penalty to sweep their Chimnies at least three times in the year; And no reasonable person can have a just Cause of Complaint, when the Sum to be paid will be so much less and the Advantages arising so great from some such Regulations as the Above.

The Committee appointed to Report, the Draught of a By Law relative to the regular sweeping the Chimnies of this Town Reported **[190.]** a By Law accordingly, which was considered by Paragrafs & comented, & the Question being put weather the same shall be Accepted as a By Law of the Town, Passed in the Affermative and is as follows viz^{t}.

It is hereby ordered and directed that every Person occupying any House or Tenement within the Town, of Boston shall cause such Chimney of such House or Tenement, wherein a Fire is usually kept, to be sweept three times at least, every year, if it Appears in (the Judgement of the Inspecter to be necessary.) And the Occupier of every Such House or Tenement shall forfeit & pay the Sum of ten shillings for each & every Chimney which shall not be Sweept as Above directed

And it is further ordered that each and every Inhabitant whose Chimnies shall be swept in the Manner before ordered, shall pay to the Chimney Comptroller, at & after the Rates following, if swept by said Comptroller or by his directions

Viz^{t}. For each Funnel of five Stories high one shill^{g}. & 6^{d}.

For each Funnel of four Stories high one shill^{g} & 4^{d}.

For each Funnel of three Stories high one shill^{g}. & 2^{d}.

For all other Chimnies — *One shilling*

The said Comptroller to be Accountable to the Selectmen for all Monies so paid to him & that said Comptroller shall give Bond to **[191.]** the Town Treasurer for the payment of such Monies & for the faithful discharge of his Office And in Case any Person shall be unable to pay the sum directed to be paid for sweeping his or her Chimneys as aforesaid, such Comptroller shall report the Name of such Person to the Selectmen, who upon proper Inquiry, may at their Discretion, charge the same on the Fund arising from the general Assessment aforesaid

But for the more exact Observation of the By Laws relating to Chimneys, It is hereby Voted and Ordered, That it shall be the Duty of the Comptroller, carefully to inspect all the Chimnies in said Town, where fires are usuallay kept, & See that they are faithfully swept, and if any Chimney shall take fire in three Weeks After they have been swept by him or his Assistance, he shall be Subjected to pay a fine not exceeding Twenty shillings for each Chimney nor less then ten shillings

The beforegoing By Law not to take effect untill a Comptroller and Sweepers are appointed

The Article in the Warrant. Viz^{t}.

" To Consider and determine what shall " be allowed the Assessors for their services in that " Office," was again read, whereupon Voted; that the Selectmen be directed to allow **[192.]** the Assessors for their past services at the Rate of Nine Shillings p Day

Voted, that all Matters and things which remain unfinished at this Meeting be and hereby are referred over to the Next General Town Meeting that may be called.

Moved & Voted, that the Thanks of the Town, be and hereby are given to Benjamin Kent Esq^{r}. — Moderator, for his good Services in the Despatch given to the Business of the Meeting

Then the Meeting was dissolved.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 5th Day of March Anno Domini 1783

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read

The Hon^{ble}. James Otis Esq^{r}.

was chosen Moderator of this Meeting and took his Seat accordingly

The Committee appointed by the Town the 5th of March last to apply to a Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the 5th of March **[193.]** Instant to perpetuate the memory of the horred Massacre perpetrated on the evening of the fifth of March 1770 by a Party of Soldiers: under the Command of Capt. Thomas Preston of the 29th. Regiment

Reported

That having met several times for the purpose mentioned in the Town Vote, they have unanimously made choice of Dr. Thomas Welch to deliver an Oration on the fifth of March Instant, who had accordingly Accepted of that Service

The foregoing Report having been read — the same was accepted by the Town

Upon a Motion the Town took into consideration, what would be the best time to have the Oration pronounced, as also, what place would be most suitable for the purpose — whereupon

Voted, that the Oration be delivered at the Old Brick Meeting House, the Hall not being capacious enough to receive the Inhabitants, that Attended upon the occasion also

Voted, that Colo. Hancock
Capt. Parkman
Mr. Moses Grant

be a Committee to wait upon Doctr. Thomas Welsh and acquaint him, that it is the desire **[194.]** of the Town, that the Oration may be delivered at the Old Brick Meeting House at half past 12. O'Clock this day; as also to ask leave of the Committee of said Church, for the use of that Building

On a Motion Voted, that the Selectmen be directed, to order the several bells in this Town to be tolled from one Quarter of an Hour after Nine O'Clock this Evening untill 10. O: Clock

Adjourned to the Old Brick Meeting House ½ past 12. O'Clock according to Adjournment

The Town Met at the Old Brick Meeting House ½ past 12 O. Clock according to Adjournment

The Committee appointed to wait on Dr. Thomas Welch, to acquaint him with the Vote of the Town, respecting the time and Place for the delivery of the Oration

Reported,

That said Gentleman was ready to comply with the Order of the Town

An Oration to commemorate the horred Massacre of the 5th. of March 1770 and to impress upon the Minds of the Citizens the ruinous tendency of standing Armies being placed in Free and Populous Cities &c was delivered by Dr. Thomas Welch **[195.]** to a large and crouded Assembly, and received by them with great Applause

On a Motion made Voted that

The Honble. James Otis Esqr. Moderator
John Scollay Esqr.
Ezekiel Price Esqr.
Dr. Cooper
Tuttle Hubbard Esqr.
Nathaniel Appleton Esqr.
Mr. Elias Sigorney

be and hereby are appointed a Committee to wait upon Doctr.

Thomas Welsh, and in the Name of the Town to thank him for the Spirited and elegant Oration delivered by him at their request, in commemoration of the horred Massacre perpetrated on the Evening of the fifth of March 1770. by a Party of Soldiers of the 29th. Regiment under the Command of Capt. Thomas Preston, and to request of him a Copy thereof for the Press

A Petition of John Green one of the Persons wounded on the Evening of the 5th. of March 1770 also the request of Mr. Patterson who lost the use of one of his Arms on that, memorable Night — was read — and considered

A Collection was made for the aforenamed Persons amounting to the Sum of ——— and put into the hands of the Selectmen to be distributed as they may Judge proper

[196.] The Town did not proceed as usual to the choice of a Committee to provide an Orator to deliver an Oration the 5th of March next — the following Motion having been made by the Town Clark — Vizt.

Whereas since the Institution of this Anniversary on the 5th of March which has answared excellent purposes, a Signal Revolution has been effected through the Favor of Heaven in the Government of our Country by the establishment of the Independance of these United States of America: And whereas this Memorable Event has induced many of the Inhabitants to make a Question whether in our present situation it would not be for the public benefit to exchange the present Institution for another of the same General nature — such for instance as an Anneversary for celebrating the glorious and happy Declaration of the Independance of the United States of America, in which the Orator might consider, the steps that led to this great Revolution, the distinguished Characters imployed in effecting and maintaining it — the important and timely aid these States received from an Alliance with his Most Christian Majesty Louis XVI in consequence of this Declaration and while under many difficulties in strugling with an inraged & cruel Enemy to support and defend it — as also the superior advantages of a Republican form of Government **[197.]** well Constituted & Administered for preserving and promoting the Liberties and happiness of Mankind; and the necessity of Virtue & good Manners, and of an Education that tends to promote them, in order to support such a Government, and to realize the Advantages it is adopted to promote.

Therefore voted, that a Committee be Appointed by the Town to consider this Matter at large and Report at the next May Meeting *

On a Motion — Voted, that the consideration of this Motion be referred to March Meeting

Then the Meeting was dissolved

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in publick

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*["at the adjournment," in original paper.]
W. H. W.

Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 10th. Day of March Anno Domini 1783

Prayer was made by the Revd. John Eliot

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read

Sundry Laws enjoined to be read at this Meeting, were accordingly — read

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for a Moderator of this Meeting, and the same being brought in and sorted it appeared, that

[198.] The Honble. Samuel Adams Esqr. was chosen Moderator

The Honble. Samuel Adams Esqr. having by a Letter to the Selectmen acquainted them that his engagement in the Senate, put it out of his power to give his Attendance at this Meeting

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for another Person, and the same being brought in and sorted it Appeared that

Ezekiel Price Esqr.

was chosen Moderator, unanimously

William Cooper, was chosen Town Clerk for the year ensuing and took the Oath of Office for the faithful discharge of his duty, which Oath was Administred to him by Ezekiel Price Esqr.

The Town having determined by a Vote to choose seven Selectmen, the Inhabitants were then directed to withdraw, and bring in their Votes for that Number, and the same being brought in and sorted, it appeared that the Following Gentlemen Vizt.

John Scollay Esqr.	
Capt. Gustavus Fellows	excused
Harbottle Dorr Esqr.	
Nathan Frazier Esqr.	excused
Ezekiel Price Esqr.	
Capt. William Macky	
Tuttle Hubbard Esqr.	

were chose Selectmen for the year ensuing unanimously

[199.] The Inhabitants as directed by the Moderator, brought in their Votes, for twelve Overseers of the Poor, and upon sorting them it Appeared, that the

Honble. William Phillips Esqr.
Isaac Smith Esqr.
Mr. Jonathan Mason
Capt. Samuel Partridge
Mr. Samuel Whitwell
Mr. John White
Edward Proctor Esqr.
William Powell Esqr.
John Sweetser Esqr.
Samuel Barret Esqr.
Mr. Nicholas Bowes
Joseph Webb Esqr.

were chosen Overseers of the Poor for the year ensuing.

Moved, that the consideration of the choice of Wardens be referred to 4 oClock Afternoon and the Question being put, — Passed in the Affermative

The Town brought in their Votes, for Sixteen Fire Wards, and the same having been sorted, it Appeared that

John Scollay Esq^{r}.
William Cooper Esq^{r}.
Francis Shaw Esq^{r}.
Edward Proctor Esq^{r}.
Caleb Davis Esq^{r}.
M^{r}. Thomas Tileston
[200.] Cap^{t}. Gustavous Fellows
Joseph Webb Esq^{r}.
M^{r}. John Lowell
Major Thomas Melvill Esq^{r}.
Jabez Hatch Esq^{r}.
Cap^{t}. Isaac Phillips
Josiah Waters Esq^{r}.
M^{r}. Jacob Rodes
Cap^{t}. Ebenezer Parsons
John Coffin Jones Esq^{r}.

where chose Fire Wards for the ensuing Year

Nathan Frazier Esq^{r}. having by a Letter directed to the Moderator, acquainted the Town, that the Business he was engaged in put it out of his power to Attend the Duty of a Selectman

It was Moved & Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby are given unto Nathan Frazier Esq^{r}. for his Good & faithful services as a Selectman of this Town for a Number of years past. — Then the Meeting was Adjourned to 3 Clock P.M.

at 3 P.M. — the Town Met According to Adjournment

On a Motion, Made, Voted, that Collectors of Taxes be chosen Seperate from Constables

This being the Time Assigned for bringing Votes, for twelve Constables, the Inhabitants were directed to withdraw & bring in their Votes, accordingly

[201.] The following Persons were Chosen Constables Viz^{t}.

Mess^{rs}.	William Rogers	excused
	John Tufts	excused
	William Patten	sworn
	Samuel Whitney	sworn
	John Kennedy	excused
	John Butterfield	
	Joseph Simpson	excused
	John Hunt	excused
	John Wheeler	
	Samuel Smith	sworn
	Patrick Conner	excused
	Robert Williams	excused

were chosen Constables for the year ensuing

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for a Town Treasurer and the same being brought in and sorted it appeared that

M^{r}. Peter Boyer

was Chosen Town Treasurer for the Ensuing Year

This being the Time Assigned for the Consideration of the choice of Wardens for the year ensuing — It was Moved that the choice of Wardens be reffered to the General Town Meeting in March next — & the Question being put passed in the Affermative only eleven dissentiants the Meeting allowed to consist of upwards of 400 People

Moved, that the Vote now passed respecting Wardens, be published in the several [**202.**] Boston News Papers, and the Question being put passed in the Affirmative almost unanimously

Cap^{t}. Gustavous Fellows having by a Letter directed to the Moderator Acquainted the Town, that the Business he was engaged in put it out of his Power to Attend the Duty of a Selectman

It was moved and Voted that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby are given unto Cap^{t}. Gustavous Fellows for his good and Faithful Services as a Selectman of this Town for a Number of Years past

The Article in the Warrant Viz^{t}. " To Consider the Petition of a great Number of the Inhabitants for the preventing or removal of the incumbrances occasioned by the placing of Carts, paynyards, stalls and benches on Dock Square, and in other Publick Places, to the great interruption of Passangers, and the hazzard of the Limbs & Lives of the Inhabitants; and that some suitable Place or Places may be provided for the Accomodation of the Market people " together with the Petition itself was read whereupon,

Voted that a Committee be appointed to take into consideration this Petition and the Article in the Warrant at Large and make report at the Adjournment of this Meeting

[**203.**] Voted, that

D^{r}. Charles Jarvis
Joseph Barrell Esq^{r}.
Col^{o}. Thomas Daws
Nathaniel Appleton Esq^{r}.
M^{r}. Samuel Elliot
Ezekiel Price Esq^{r}.
Perez Morton Esq^{r}.

be a Committee for the Purpose aforesaid, and that said Committee do also take into consideration other Nusances of the Town and report at the same time

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw & bring in their Votes for a County Treasurer, which was received and Sealed up in Meeting & then delivered to Constable Smith to be by him returned to the Court of General Sessions of the Peace at the next Meeting

Agreeable to the Article in Warrant Viz^{t}. — To consider a Motion made on the 5th of March Ins^{t}. for the exchange of the institution of the Anniversary for Another of a General Nature, for Reasons in said Motion " the following Motion was made — Viz^{t}.

Whereas since the Institution of this Anniversary on the 5th of March which has Answered excellent purposes, A Signal Revolution has been effected through the Favour of Heaven in the Government of our Country by the establishment of the Independance of these [**204.**] United States of America: and whereas this memorable event has induced many of the Inhabitants to make a Question whether in our Present situation it would not be for the Publick Benefit to exchange the present Institution for Another of the same general Nature: such for instance As an Anniversary for celebrating the glorious and happy Declaration of the Independence of the United States of America in which the Orator might consider the Steps that lead to this great Revolution, the distinguished Carrecters imployed in effecting and maintaining it the important & timely Aid these States received from an Alliance with his most Christian Majesty Lewis XVI in consequence of this declaration & while under many difficulties in strugling with an enraged and cruel Enemy to support and defend it. As also the superior Advantages of a Republican form of Government, well constituted and Administred for preserving and promoting the Liberties & happiness of Mankind and the necessity of Virtue and good Manners & of an education that tends to promote them in order to support such a Government and to realize the Advantages it is adopted to promote

Whereupon the Question was put. Whether the same shall be excepted

Passed in the Affirmative

also Voted that

Perez Morton Esq.
[**205.**] Col°. Tudor
Thomas Daws, Jun^r^.
Joseph Barrell
Doct^r^. Charles Jarvis

be a Committee to consider this Matter at Large & Report at the Adjournment

Moved that the Town now proceed to the choice of four Collectors of Taxes for the year ensuing — and the Question being put — Passed in the Affermative

Moved and Voted, that the Above Vote be recommitted and that the choice of Collectors be referred to to Morrow Morning

Adjourned to Tuesday next being the eleventh of March Instant 10. O Clock in the Forenoon

Tuesday the 11th Day of March 10. O Clock in the Forenoon — Met according to Adjournment

Mr. William McNeil
Mr. Edward How

where chose Surveyors of Hemp for the year ensuing

Messrs. Joseph Buttler
Clement Collins Jur.
John Ballard Junr.
John Champney
Joseph Ballard
Jonathan Stodder
[**206.**] Edmond Ranger

Abraham Howard
Benj^{a}. Page
Samuel Fenno
Samuel Dellaway
James Rogers
Thomas Uran
Henry Blaisdill
Samuel Dyer
Joseph Aynes [Ayres]
were chose Surveyors of Boards for the year ensuing
Mess^{rs}. Daniel Brown
Jonathan Stoddard
John Neat
Samuel Todd
William Clough
were chosen Fence Viewers for the year ensuing
Mess^{rs}. Nathaniel Green
Samuel Bangs
Stephen Gore
Joseph Hayden
were Chose Sealers of Leather for the year ensuing
M^{r}. Adam Colson
was chosen Informer of Deer for the year ensuing
Mess^{rs}. Joseph Spear
Menassah Masters
Joshua Pico
[207.] Caleb Hayden
John Owen
Edmond Burd
Cap^{t}. David Spear
Joseph Loring
Robert Hitchburne
Daniel Bell
Robert Brick
John M^{c}Elary
were chosen Cullers of Staves for the year ensuing
Mess^{rs}. George Hamlin - - - - - - sworn
Samuel Curtis
were chose Haywards for the ensuing year
Mess^{rs}. William M^{c}Fadden - - - - - excused
William Sharp
Jacob Edes
Josiah Simpson
were chose Hogreeves for the year ensuing

	Ward	
Mess^{rs}. John Cade - - - - -	No. 1	excused
Thomas Stoddar - - -	2	
Joseph Prince - - - -	3	declines
John Cogswell - - - -	4	
Samuel Sumner - - - -	5	
Jeremiah Bumstead - -	6	sworn
Ephrim Copeland - - -	7	
John Kennedy - - - -	8	

Zipheon Thayer - - -	9	excused
Joseph Shed - - - -	10	
George Langley - -	11	
Peter Geyer - - - -	12	

were chosen Scavingers for the Year ensuing

[208.] Mess^rs. Thomas Green
John Skinner

were chose Assay Masters for the ensuing year

Mess^rs. John White Esq^r.
John Sweetzer Esq^r.
John Lucas Esq^r.

were chose Purchasers of Grain for the year ensuing and they are desired and impowered to give all needful directions to the Keeper of the Granary respecting the quantities of Grain to be sold, and Affixing the prices thereof from time to time as Occasion shall require; and the said Committee are desired and directed to cause all the Grain belonging to the Town to be ground at the New Mills near the Mill Bridge

The Selectmen

were chosen Surveyors of the High Way for the year ensuing.

Mess^rs. John Lucas
Edward Tuckerman
Edward Edes
Samuel Smith
John Jenkins

were chosen Surveyors of Wheat and Flower for the year ensuing

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for a Committee of Correspondence, Inspection and Safety. And the same being brought in and sorted it Appeared that

[209.] Mess^rs. Nathàniel Barber
Edward Proctor Esq^r.
Cap^t. John Pulling
Ebenezer Hancock Esq^r.
Cap^t. Isaac Phillips
Samuel Ruggles Esq^r.
Thomas Melville Esq^r.
M^r. John Lucas excused
Abiel Ruddock Esq^r.

were chosen a Committee of Correspondence Inspection & Safety, for the year ensuing.

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw, and bring in their Votes for four Collectors of Taxes, and the same having been brought in and sorted, it appeared that

Benjamin Sumner Ju^r. - - - - - - -	96 Votes
James Thompson - - - - - - - - - -	120
Thomas Bayley - - - - - - - - - - -	153
Alexander Thomas - - - - - - - - - -	115

were chosen Collectors of Taxes for the year ensuing.

Voted, that two and one half p Cent be and hereby is allowed to the Persons that shall be chose Collectors of Taxes for the year ensuing, on all such sums of Money as they shall Collect, provided that they shall conform to the Act and Resolutions of the

General Assembly and the Votes of this Town; which Premium appears to be Just and equitable and an Ample Allowance to the Collectors to encourage them to discharge their duty with deligence and [**210.**] Fidelity; provided also that each of said Collectors give Bond with sufficient Sureties to the Satisfaction of the Selectmen, for the faithfull discharge of their Duty in said Office and complying with this Vote

Moved and Voted, that the Collectors of Taxes be and hereby are enjoined to pay into the County and Town Treasuries in proportion as they shall pay into the State Treasuery from Time to Time

The Inhabitants were desired to withdraw and bring in their Votes for two Selectmen in the Room of Nathan Frazier Esq^r^. & Cap^t^. Gustavious Fellows, and the Same having been brought in and sorted it Appeared, that

Deacon Thomas Greenough
David Jeffries Esq^r^.

were chosen Selectmen for the year ensuing

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for seven Assessors, and the same being brought in and sorted, it appeared that

Mess^rs^. William Lowder
Moses May
John R. Sigoney
John Pulling
Barth^w^. Kneeland
Samuel Ruggles Esq^r^.
Cap^t^. William Fleet

were chosen Assessors for the Year ensuing

[**211.**] Voted, that the Assessors be and hereby are empowered and directed to set for such Abatements of Taxes, as they shall Judge reasonable ten days following the date and delivery of the Tax Bills (Lords days excepted) and no longer saving that they be allowed to set two days the last Week in February for the Abatement of the Taxes of such Persons as had not an oppertunity of applying in the Above limitted Time by reason of their being out of the Commonwealth, or any other unavoidable hindrance, at which time they are also Allowed and impowered to Abate the Taxes of such Persons as may have died Insolvent before the said time —

The Article in the Warrant, relative to making Provision for paying the Town Creditors Viz^t^. "Whether the Town will make provision for paying the principal and Interest due to such of their Creditors as are in want of their Monies" — being read — whereupon

Voted, that the Town Treasurer be impowered and directed to allow the Several Creditors of the Town who have lent Monies to the Town, Interest and compound Interest on the Monies lent

Voted, that 4 o'Clock be Assigned for the consideration of the Articles in the Warrant relative to Lands on the Neck

And after it for the consideration of the Articles in the Warrant relative to new Emission Monies

[**212.**] The Article in the Warrant. Viz^{t}. "To consider, weather any measures shall be taken for the better regulation of the Cows going on the Common of this Town" — was read whereupon

Voted, that this Matter be reffered to the Selectmen, and they are hereby Authorised and impowered to raise the Sum required for providing Bulls &c to Six Shillings for every Cow going on the Common

The Article in the Warrant Viz^{t}. "Wether the Selectmen in their settling with the Town Clerk may not Allow him on Account of the high price of the Necessarys of Life, in proportion with what has been allowed the Other Town Officers was read — whereupon

Voted, that Joseph Barrell Esq^{r}.
M^{r}. John Lowell
Col^{o}. Joseph Webb

be a Committee to consider this Matter and Town Clerks, Accounts, and report at the Adjournment

Then the Meeting was Adjourned to 3 Clock in the Afternoon.

At 3 ^{o}Clock P: M met according to Adjournment

[**213.**] The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for Six Constables and the same being brought in and Sorted it Appeared that the following Persons were chose

Viz^{t}. Mess^{rs}. John Kemp excused
Alexander M^{c}.Cloud Sworn
Abner Rumnil - - - - - - - - d^{o}.
Rufus Bent - - - - - - - - d^{o}.
George Hamlin - - - - - - - d^{o}.
Isaac Wendell - - - - - - - - d^{o}.

were chosen Constables for the ensuing year

The following Persons were chosen Clerks of the Market for the year ensuing

Viz^{t}. Cap^{t}. John Winslow sworn
M^{r}. Robert M^{c}Niel
M^{r}. Nathan Spear sworn
M^{r}. William Hyslop - - - - - - - - d^{o}.
M^{r}. Thomas K. Jones
Samuel Deming - - - - - - - - - sworn
M^{r}. Lewis Carnes - - - - - - - - - d^{o}.
M^{r}. John Brown - - - - - - - - - d^{o}.
M^{r}. William Payne - - - - - - - - d^{o}.
M^{r}. John Amory - - - - - - - - - d^{o}.
M^{r}. William Morrill - - - - - - - - d^{o}.
M^{r}. Samuel Gould

Voted, that Major Thomas Melvill excus'd
Edward Payne Esq^{r}.
Herman Brimmer Esq^{r}.
Edward Green Esq^{r}.
Charles Miller Esq^{r}.
Samuel Ruggles Esq^{r}.

[**214.**] be and hereby are Appointed a Committee to Audit Accompts of M^{r}. Peter Boyer Treasurer, and also the Accompt of the Overseers of the Poor and the said Committee are impowered when they shall Audit said Accompts, to allow of such of the Overseers as shall have Advanced Monies for the Relief of the Poor, Interest on all such Sums from the Time so Advanced untill they have Audited said Accompts; and they are also desired to report from time to time a State of the Treasurey respecting its debts and credits and on any Matter that they may think proper

And the Committee are also directed to examine the Draughts of the Selectmen

A Motion was made that the consideration of Salaries and Grants be refferred over to the General Town Meeting in May Next. — and the Question being put it Passed in the Affermative.

The Selectmen Reported, on the Visitation of the Schools the last Year and were Appointed Visitors of the Schools the present Year.

The Article in the Warrant Viz^{t}. " Whether the Lands on the Neck shall be leased for a Certain time, or otherwise improved by the Town " — was read wereupon moved that the consideration of this Article be reffered [**215.**] to the General Town Meeting in May Next, — and the Question being put passed in the Negative

It was then Moved & Voted, that a Committee be Appointed to take this Article into consideration and Report at the Adjournment

Voted, that

Col^{o}. Nath^{l}. Barber
Col^{o}. W^{m}. Tudor
Joseph Barrell Esq^{r}. excused
Cap^{t}. John Ballard
John Lucas Esq^{r}.
Col^{o}. Dawes — Esq^{r}.

be a Committee for the purpose Aforesaid

The Article in the Warrant Viz^{t}. " Whether the Town Treasurer shall be impowered to dispose of the whole or any part of the Emission Monies in the Treasurey: — was read, whereupon Moved,

That the Town Treasurer be and he hereby is Authorised and impowered to dispose of the New Emission Money in the Treasurey on the best Terms he can

And the Question being put Passed in the Affermative

Moved, when this Meeting is Adjourned it shall be to Tuesday Fortnight at 3'O Clock P.M being the 25 — Ins^{t}.

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

[**216.**] Tuesday March 25th — 3. O Clock in the Afternoon — Town met according to Adjournment

On a Motion Voted, that one other Person be Added to the four Hogreeves chosen for the Year ensuing — whereupon

M^{r}. John Skinner

was chosen a Hogreeve for the year ensuing

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for one Constable — and the same being brought in and Sorted, it Appeared that

Mr. Robert Brick

was chosen a Constable for the year ensuing

Mr. Joseph Prince chosen one of the Scavingers for Ward No. 3. having desired the Town to excuse him from serving in that Office, he was accordingly excused.

Mr. Elkanah Hayden

was chosen a Scavinger for the year ensuing for Ward No. 3.

Moved and Voted, that one more be Added to the Persons chosen Surveyers of Boards

Mr. William Alexander

was chosen a Surveyor of Boards for the year ensuing

The Committee on the Article in the Warrt. Vizt. "To consider whether the Selectmen in their settling with the Town Clark may not allow him **[217.]** on Account of the high price of the Necessaries of Life, in proportion with what has been allowed the Other Town Officers," — Reported as follows, Vizt. The Committee Appointed by the Town for the purposes Above mentioned, are fully of Opinion that the Selectmen in Settling with the Town Clerk, allow him on Account of the high prices of the Necessaries of Life, in proportion with what has been allowed the Schoolmasters

Joseph Barrel p Order

The foregoing Report having been read and considered — the Question was put — Whether the same shall be accepted

Passed in the Affirmative

The Committee Appointed to devise the Necessary Means of removing the disorders of the Market and other Nuisances, beg Leave to report.

1st That for the future in their Opinion it will be highly for the Interest of the Inhabitants in General, that proper places be Assigned for the different Markets for Wood, Hay, &c, as the Square contigueous to Faneuil Hall delinated in the Annexed plan, be still Approbiated [*sic*] as the Most convenient spot for the great Market of Flesh, Vegetables, &c.

2d. That the Part of Common Street between the Grainery and the North end of the Burying Ground Adjoining; as also the Old North Square, be the Places for the Wood Marketts for all the Wood brought by land into this Town for Sale.

[218.] 3dly That the Space near Olivers Dock be Assigned as a Markett place for Hay, that is for all hay brought by Land for Sale into this Town.

4thly That the dock be filled up as far as the swing Bridge and if any Private Property be injured the owners thereof be compensated for their loss.

5thly. That an inspector of the Marketts be annually Chosen by the Town to see the several by Laws and Orders of the Town properly enforced as far as they respect the Marketts, and that this Officer be allowed an Adequate reward for his Services.

6^{thly}. That the following by Laws be recommended to the Town as of indispensible Necessity, to give effect to the Preceding regulations.

7^{thly} That the Scavengers be enjoined by the Town to the utmost to exert the Power with which they are invested for the suppression & prevention of those Nuisances which at present are a disgrace to our Police, and if not removed, by contaminating the Air, must contribute to produce the Most fatal disorders among the Inhabitants. — And in Order the more effectually to remedy this mischief It is earnestly enjoined upon the Inhabitants to give the earliest information to the proper Officers of all or any Nuisances that the proper and legal Methods may be forthwith taken for their removal. —

[**219.**] By Laws, for the Appointment and Regulation, of the several Markett places in the Town of Boston.

Whereas, it frequently happens that Persons, who vend Hay, Wood, Meat, Vegetables, and other Articles of Supplies in this Town, Assemble and stand with their Carts, Teams, Sleds, Sleighs, Waggons & Horses, in some or Other of the Publick Streets, to the great annoyance of the Neighbourhood where such stand is made, and to the Danger of the Lives and Limbs of those who Attempt to pass them: And whereas it is highly convenient and necessary for the General Good, that in all Populous Towns, the Publick Streets thereof should be freely passable at all times, and that certain Publick places, be set apart for the Stand of those who supply the Inhabitants thereof with Provisions & other Articles of Consumption.

It is therefor Voted, and Ordered. — That the lower floor of Faneuil Hall and the Land around the same (as laid out and marked in A plan this day Approved and Adopted by the Town) be the Common Markett place for the Sail of all kinds of Meat, Vegetables or Grain &c. — the several parts thereof to be used and improved respectively for the purposes mentioned in the aforesaid plan [**220.**] And whoever shall use or improve any part of said Markett place to a different purpose than is Assigned in said plan After being directed by the Inspector of the Markets to his proper place, and without special permission first had & Obtained from the Inspector of the Markett, shall forfit and pay the Sum of Six shillings for every such Offence.

And if any Person or Persons bringing Meat, Vegetables or Grain to Markett shall be found standing in any other Publick Street of the Town, with his or their Team, Cart, Sled, Sleigh, Waggon, or Horse with Meat, Vegetables, or Grain, therewith (except while being stopt'd by some person offering to purchase the same or detained by some accident) he shall forfit and pay the Sum of Eight shillings for every such Offence.

2^{d} It is further Ordered, That Common Street so called extending from the Granary to the North End of the Common Burying Place on the West Side of said Street, and also the Old North Square so called, be and they are hereby set apart and known as Wood Marketts, where it shall be lawful for all Persons bringing Wood, loads of barrells Empty or full, or Hoops to Marketts to Assemble and stand with their Teams, Carts, Sleds & Waggons for the purpose of vending the Same [221.] And if any Person or Persons, bringing Wood, Hoops, or Empty or full Barrells to Market shall be found, standing in any Other Publick Streets of the Town with his or their Team, Cart, Sled, or Waggon loaded with any of the aforesaid Articles (except while being stoped by some persons offering to Purchase the Same, or detained by some Accident) he shall forfit & pay the Sum of Ten shillings for every such offence.

3d. And it is further Ordered, That the Open space at the bottom of Water Street near Olivers Dock, be and it hereby is set apart and Appropriated as a Hay Markett; where it shall be Lawfull for all Persons bringing Hay to Markett to Assemble and stand with their Teams, Carts, Sleds and Waggons for the purpose of vending the Same. — And if any Person or Persons shall be found standing in any other Streets of the Town, with his or their Team, Cart, Sled or Waggon loaded with Hay (excepting at the place of weighing. & except while being Stopt'd by some Persons offering to purchase the same, or detained by some Accident) he shall forfit and pay the Sum of Twelve shillings for every such Offence.—

4th. It is further Ordered. — That no Person, or Persons, bringing Meat, Vegetables, Grain, Wood, Hay or any other Articles of Supplies [222.] to Market shall presume to stop and sell or Offer for sale any such Articles within the Limits of Dock Square or in any of the Avenues or Streets leading directly from State Street now so called into the Common Market place or Dock Square aforesaid, under the Penalty of six shillings for every such Offence

And in order that Persons may not be encouraged & Countenanced in the Violation of the aforesaid Orders & By Laws.

5thly. It is further Ordered — That every Person Inhabiting this Town, who shall buy or Offer to buy any Meats, Vegetables Grain, Wood, Hay or any other Articles of Supplies, brought to Market for Sale of any Person or Persons standing and Offering the same for Sale in any other Streets or parts of this Town than is herein respectively Assigned them for that purpose, or shall buy or offer to buy any of said Articles of any Person or Persons whatsoever within the limits of Dock Square or in any of the Avenues or Streets leading directly from State Street into the Common Market place or Dock Square Aforesaid, shall forfit and pay the Sum of Six shillings for every such Offence.

And to the end that the foregoing Orders & By-Laws may not like others heretofore be [223.] rendered ineffectual nugatory by Remissness and inattention to the execution thereof — but be carried into rigorous Effect.

6thly. It is hereby further Ordered, That there be Annually chosen from among the Inhabitants of the Town some Active Spirited and faithfull Person, who shall be called the Inspector of the Markets, whose Duty it shall be to carry the severall By-Laws and Orders of the Town touching the arrangement of the severall Markets into constant Effect — And in Order thereto he shall make it his daily employment to pass through the several Market Places, the

Avenues leading thereto, and the Several Publick Streets: and if the Inspector of the Markets shall find any Person or Persons, standing with his or their Carts, Teames, Sleds, Sleighs, Waggons or Horses loaded with meats, Vegetables, Grain, Wood, Hay &c. as aforesaid in any of the Streets in Violation of the aforesaid By-Law, upon view thereof he shall Order & direct the Offender to Repair to the Market place Assigned for the Sale of the Articles he may have & on his refusal, the said Inspector of the Marketts shall forthwith Complain against such Persons to some **[224.]** Justice of the Piece that he may find Agreeable to the foregoing By-Laws. — And it shall be the Duty of the said Inspector of the Markets to complain in Manner as aforesaid against all Breaches of Any of the Aforesaid By-Laws which shall come to his knowledge, either by his own View, or the Information of any other Citizen — And it shall further be the Duty of said Inspector of the Markets, to keep the several Market places continually clean and free from all kinds of filth & Dirt: and to remove all Nusances therefrom.

7th. And to the end that said Inspector of the Market may be induced to perform his Duty with chearfullness and Integrity. It is Ordered that he shall have an Adequate and reasonable reward for his Service.

8th. It is further Ordered, That all Penalties & forefeitures Arising by any breaches of the foregoing By-Laws, shall go and be to the use of the Town, and be Approbiated to the support and maintance of the Several Markets, aforesaid — By Order of the Committee.

Charles Jarvis

The foregoing Report having been read and considered Paragraph by Paragraph; was Accepted by the Town & the Plan Mentioned in said Report was Adopted by the Town.,

[225.] Moved & Voted, that a Committee be Appointed to carry this Report into Execution

Also Voted, that

Charles Jarvis Esqr.
Joseph Barrell Esqr.
Thomas Daws Esqr.
Nathaniel Appleton Esqr.
Mr. Samuel Elliót (excused)
Ezekiel Price Esqr. excused

be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid & they are also Authorised and impowered to confir with the Abutters on the Dock relative to the tittle & property of the Land or any priviledges in the said Dock, as also with Respect to any Compensation.

The Committee relative to Lands on the Neck having Reported, it was moved & Voted, that the consideration of said Report be referred to next May Meeting, and that the Town be then Notified thereof in the Warrant then to be essued for said Meeting

The Committee Appointed to consider a late Motion for the Change of the Institution of the Annaversary on the 5th. of March, reported as follows Vizt.

Whereas the Annual Celebration of the Boston Massacre on the 5th. of March 1770, by the Institution of a Publick Oration [**226.**] has been found to be of eminent Advantage to the Cause of America in disseminating the Principles of Virtue and Patriotism among her Citizens; And whereas the immediate Motives which induced the commemoration of that day, do *now* no longer exist in their primitive force; while the Benefits resulting from the Institution to, may and ought to be forever preserved, by exchanging that Anniversary for Another, the foundation of which will last as long as time endures. It is therefore Resolved, that the Celebration of the fifth of March from henceforwards shall cease; and that instead thereof the Anniversary of the 4th. Day of July A.D. 1776 (a Day ever memorable in the Annals of this Country for the declaration of our Independance) shall be constantly celebrated by the Delivery of a Publick Oration, in such place as the Town shall determine to be most convenient for the purpose — In which the Orator shall consider the *feelings, manners & principles* which led to this great National Event as, well as the important and *happy* EFFECTS whether general or domestick, which already have, and will forever continue to flow from this Auspicious Epoch. —

The foregoing Report having been read & considered, it was Voted, that the same be [**227.**] Accepted. And that a Committee be now Appointed to provide an Orator to deliver an Oration on the 4th of July Next Agreeable to said report, Also. — Voted, that

Perez Morton Esqr.
Honble. Samuel Adams Esqr.
Honble. James Sullivan Esqr.
William Tudor Esqr.
Ezekiel Price Esqr.

be a Committee for the purpose Aforesaid

John Kemp chosen a Constable for the year ensuing having desired to be excused from serving in that Office he was Accordingly excused.

Moved, that when this Meeting is Adjourned it be to next Monday sennight — 3 °Clock P.M. — And it was Adjourned Accordingly

Monday the 7th. Day of April 3 O Clock Afternoon — Town met according to Adjournment

Ezekiel Price Esqr. in the Chair

Mr. John Cade chosen Scavinger for Ward No. 1 for the ensuing year having desired, to be excused from serving in that Office — he was accordingly excused

Mr. Samuel Clough

was chosen a Scavinger for the ensuing year for Ward No 1

[**228.**] Ezekiel Price Esqr. one of the Committee relative to Incumbrances on the Dock & having desired to be excused from serving he was accordingly excused

Deacon Newel

was appointed one of the Committee relative to the Dock in the room of Mr. Price

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for one Constable and the same having been brought in and sorted it Appeared that

Mr. Calvin White — excused

was chosen Constable for the year ensuing

Moved and seconded, that a Committee be now Appointed to consider and Report proper Instructions for the Committee of Correspondence Inspection and Safety of this Town — After some debate the Question was put Vizt. Whether such a Committee shall be now Appointed by the Town — And the Question being accordingly put — Passed in the Affermative

Voted, that the
Honble. Saml. Adams Esqr.
Honble. James Otis Esqr.
Joseph Greenleaf Esqr.
be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

[229.] Mr. William McFadden

chosen a Hogreeve for the year ensuing having desired to be excused from Serving in that Office, he was accordingly — excused,

Mr. Timothy Conner

was chosen Hogreeve for the Year ensuing

Mr. Calvin White

chosen one of the Constables for the year having desired to be excused from serving in that Office, he was accordingly excused by the Town

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for one Constable, but no Votes were brought in

The Committee Appointed to Consider what directions were necessary to be given the Committee of Correspondence, Inspection and Safety — Reported the following Resolve — Vizt.

Whereas by a Resolve of the Legislature of this Commonwealth passed on the thirteenth of February Seventeen hundred seventy Six, the several Towns were directed and impowered at their Annuale Meetings in March to choose a Committee of Correspondence Inspection and Safety, whose bussiness (among other things) is to Communicate matters of Importance to Committees of the Same denominations, to any Other Town County or States, or to the General Assembly or Council. And whereas the present Circumstances of the United States require that Committees so Appointed should use their utmost industry & Care **[230.]** to effect the great & important purposes of their Appointment, at a time when interest is making for the readmitting Absentees and Conspirators to return into this and other of the United States — therefor

Resolved — That This Town will at all times (as they have done) to the utmost of their power, oppose every Enemy to the Just Rights and Liberties of Mankind: And that after so wicked a Conspiracy against those Rights and Liberties by certain Ingrates, Most of them Natives of these States, and who have been Refugees and declared Traitors to their Country — It is the Opinion of this Town, that they ought never to be suffered to return, but be excluded from having Lot or Portion among us

And the Committee of Correspondence are hereby requested as by the Law of this Commonwealth they are fully impowered, to write to the Several Towns, in this Commonwealth, and desire them to come into the same or Similar Resolves, if they shall think fit

The foregoing Report having been read and Considered the Question was put — Vizᵗ. Whether this Report shall be accepted — Passed in the Affirmative

It was then moved and Voted that the aforegoing Resolves or Report of the Committee [**231.**] be published in the Publick News Papers

Moved & Voted, that when this Meeting shall be Adjourned, it shall be to the same Day of the May Meeting. 3. O Clock in the Afternoon —

And the Meeting was accordingly

Adjourned

At a Meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the Town of Boston of twenty one Years of Age & upwards qualified as the Constitution prescribes, and legally warned in Publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 7th. Day of April Anno Domini 1783

Prayer was made by the Revᵈ. Joseph Eckly

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read

Paragraphs of the Constitution or form of Government relative to the choice of Governor Lieveᵗ. Governor and Six Senators, for the County of Suffolk were also read

On a Motion Voted,

That the Town will now come to the choice of a Governor Lievetenant Governor and six Senators for the County of Suffolk

[**232.**] It was then declared by the Selectmen that no Votes would be received but such as are unfolded, and that they Purpose the Poll should be closed at One O Clock

It was then moved and Voted, that the Bells in the Town be set a ringing at half past twelve O'Clock

Persons Voted for as Governor with the numbers of Votes for each Person. Vizᵗ. His Excellency John Hancock Esqʳ. seven hundred & forty seven Votes — Persons

Voted, for as Governor

	Votes.
Honᵇˡᵉ. James Bowdoin Esqʳ.	60
Honᵇˡᵉ. Benjamin Lincoln Esqʳ.	52

Persons Voted, for as Lieutenant Governor with the Number of Votes for each Person, Vizᵗ.

	Votes.
His Honor Thomas Cushing Esqʳ.	724
Honᵇˡᵉ. Elbridge Gerry Esqʳ. - - - - - - -	105
Honᵇˡᵉ. Azor Orne Esqʳ. - - - - - - - - -	1
Honᵇˡᵉ. James Warren Esqʳ. - - - - - - -	2
Honᵇˡᵉ. Samuel Adams Esqʳ. - - - - - - -	1

Persons Voted, for as Senators for the County of Suffolk, with the number of Votes for each Person — Vizᵗ.

		Votes.
	Honble. Samuel Adams Esqr.	823
	Honble Jeremiah Powell Esqr.	732
[233.]	Honble. Caleb Davis Esqr.	812
	Honble. Cotton Tufts Esqr.	816
	Honble. Jabez Fisher Esqr.	704
	Ebenezer Wales Esqr.	785
	Honble. John Pitts Esqr.	176
	Honble. Samuel Dexter	125
	Honble. Samuel Nyles	23
	Honble. Robert T. Payne	1
	Honble. James Sullivan	10
	Honble. Benjamin Austin Esqr.	9
	Honble. William Phillips	21
	Honble. Benjamin White Esqr.	4
	Honble. James Otis Esqr.	6
	John Lowel Esqr.	3
	John Rowe Esqr.	7
	Samuel Barret Esqr.	2
	John Barret Esqr.	2
	Richard Cranch Esqr.	6
	Thomas Daws Esqr.	3
	Solomon Lovel Esqr.	4
	Nathaniel Appleton Esqr.	1

Attested Copies of the Persons Voted for as Governor Luivetanant Governor & Senators for the County of Suffolk, were committed to the Secretary of this Commonwealth, and the Inclosures sealed up in Town Meeting, Superscribed as follows. Vizt.

For
John Avery Junr. Esqr.
Secretary of the Commonwealth
of Massachusetts

[234.] The Number of Votes of the Town of Boston for a Governor Lievetenant Governor and Six Senators for the County of Suffolk Certified within and sealed up in Town Meeting

Then the Meeting was
disolved

At an Adjournment of the March Meeting to this Day, the Inhabitants met according to Adjournment at 3. O'Clock Afternoon

Ezekiel Price Esqr.
in the Chair

Mr. Zipheon Thayer chosen one of the Scavingers for the year ensuing having desired the Town to Excuse him from serving in that Office, he was accordingly excused

Mr. Christopher Clark — (excused) — was chosen a Scavinger for the year ensuing.

Mr. Clark having appeared and prayed the Town to excuse him from serving in that Office the Year ensuing — he was accordingly excused

Capt. Gilbert W. Speakman — (Sworn) — was chosen a Scavinger for the Year ensuing for Ward No. 9

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes, for one Constable — and the same having been brought in and sorted it appeared that

M^{r}. Barth^{o}. Broders

was chosen a Constable for the Year ensuing

[235.] Moved and Voted, that all Matters and things which remain unfinished at this Meeting be and they hereby are referred over to the May Meeting

Moved & Voted, that the thanks of the Town be and hereby are given to Ezekiel Price Esq^{r}. for his good services as Moderator

Then the Meeting was dissolved

At a Meeting of the Freeholders & Other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in publick Town Meeting Assembled at Fanieul Hall on Tuesday the 6th Day of May Anno Domini 1783 10. O'Clock in the Forenoon

Prayer was made by the Rev^{d}. M^{r}. Clark

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read

That part of the Constitution or Form of Government which relates to the choice of Representatives — read

Sundry Laws to be read at the May Meeting — were accordingly — read

The Town having determined to choose Seven Persons to Represent them in the General Court of Massachusetts to be held at the State House in Boston **[236.]** upon the last Wednesday of May Current Agreeable to the Constitution or Frame of Government of the Massachusetts — The Inhabitants were accordingly directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for Seven Representatives, and then it was declared by the Selectmen, that no Votes would be received, but such as are unfolded, and that they purpose the Poll shall be closed at twelve O.Clock

The Votes being brought in for Seven Representatives, the Number of the same were found to be three hundred seventy eight — and upon sorting them it Appeared that the following Gentlemen were chosen by a Majority of said Votes — Viz^{t}.

	Votes
The Hon^{ble}. William Phillips Esq^{r}.	337
Hon^{ble}. John Pitts Esq^{r}.	310
Nathaniel Appleton Esq^{r}.	264
Hon^{ble}. Caleb Davis Esq^{r}.	303
Thomas Daws Esq^{r}.	361
Thomas Walley Esq^{r}.	225
Hon^{ble}. James Sullivan Esq^{r}.	244

Adjourned to Four O Clock in the Afternoon

4 O'Clock in the Afternoon Town met according to Adjournment

The choice of Representatives **[237.]** being over and declared by the Selectmen the Inhabitants, were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for a Moderator of this Meeting in order that the Town may proceed in transacting the other Affairs mentioned in the Warrant; accordingly the Inhabitants withdrew and brought in their Votes, and upon sorting them it Appeared, that

Ezekiel Price Esq^{r}. — (excused)

was chosen Moderator.

M^{r}. Price having informed the Town that he was prevented from giving his Attendance the Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes, for another Moderator and the same being brought in and sorted it appeared that

Thomas Daws Esq^{r}.

was chosen Moderator of the Meeting

Moved and Voted, that a Comittee be now chosen to draw up and Report at the Adjournment of this Meeting a Draught of Instructions for the Gentlemen who Represent this Town in the General Assembly.

Voted, that the Hon^{ble}. Sam: Adams Esq^{r}.
Ezekiel Price Esq^{r}.
Hon^{ble}. James Lovel Esq^{r}.
[238.] D^{r}. Charles Jarvis
Joseph Greenleaf Esq^{r}.
be appointed a Committee for the purpose aforesaid.

M^{r}. Thomas Walley chosen one of our Representatives in the General Court having in writing declined Serving as a Representative he was accordingly excused by the Town.

The Moderator lade before the Town a Letter he had received from the Hon^{ble}. William Philips Esq^{r}. — which was read.

The Committee relative to Lands on the Neck, being Appointed by the Town to consider the Situation of said Lands, and what improvement can be made of these Reported — and the said Report having been read & considered, and also announced by the Town was Accepted as follows Viz^{t}.

That the Selectmen be impowered to lease (for as short a time as they can agree on) to M^{r}. Nathaniel Curtis or any other person a Piece of Beach Land measuring Ninety five feet more or less in length and lying between the Land and Wharff of said Curtis and the Northeast Corner of the Fortification and such part of the Land Adjoining as the Selectmen shall think proper on condition that such Persons shall Covenant to Erect a Subestantial Sea Wall of Stone, five feet [239.] high with a good Capston Top, to run from said Curtis's; Wharff to the Northeast Corner aforesaid, and be filled in with dirt so as to level the Ground from said Wall to the Street, and have the same compleated by the first Day of November next ensuing

That it is of immediate importance to the preservation of the Lands remaining, on the Easterly side of the Neck that a Stone Wall be built as soon as possible to extend from the Southerly Corner of the Wood Work of the Fortification to the head of the Dam containing About one Thousand feet in Length, and that all the Ground within said Wall be made level with the Pavement.

And in order to have this most necessary work speedily and effectually executed, the Town impower the Selectmen to lay out the Lands included in the Above Boundaries into Lots of Sixty feet each in Front and running to said Wall, and to execute Sufficient Deeds of Bargain and Sale of every other of said Lots to such Person, or Persons as will contracte for themselves and Heirs to Erect and forever maintain said Wall, and preserve the Ground lying within said Limits from Decay.

The Article in the Warrant Viz^t. — Whether the Town will take any other or further Measures for preventing or removing **[240.]** any Incumbrances or Nusances as well on the Common as in the Streets Lanes or High Ways of the Town was read — whereupon.

Voted, that W^m. Tudor - - - - - - - (excused)
Hon^ble. James Sullivan Esq^r.
Josiah Waters
M^r. John Lowel - - - - - - - - - excused
Tho^s. Daws Jun^r. Esq^r.

be and hereby are Appointed a Committee for the purpose aforesaid and they hereby are Authorised and impowered to Confer with the Abutors on the Town Dock relative to the Title and Property of the Lands, or any Privileges in the said Dock, as also with respect to any Compensation — And to Report at the Adjournment of this Meeting

M^r. Samuel Eliot Appointed one of the Committee for filling up the Dock having desired the Town to excuse him from serving on that Committee he was accordingly excused.

M^r. Henry Prentice was chosen one of the Committee for the purpose aforesaid

Moved that the foregoing Committee for filling up the Dock - - Viz^t.

Charles Jarvis Esq^r.
Joseph Barrel Esq^r.
Thomas Dawes Esq^r.
[241.] Nathaniel Appleton Esq^r.
Deacon Timothy Newell
M^r. Henry Prentice

be desired to proceed in that Business, and in making the Head and carrying out the Draines which run into the Dock, in Order for the immediate filling up the same upon the best terms that may be; and also fixing the Rails and Posts for the better accommodation of the Market People; and that the Expencies of the same be paid out of the next Town Tax.

And the Question being Accordingly put — Passed in the Affermative.

Moved and Voted, that the Committee Appointed to prepare a Draught of Instructions for the Gentlemen who Represent this Town in the General Court; have an Article in said Draught, Viz^t.— That when the Representatives are met in General Court they pray leave of the House in behalf of the Town, to bring in a Bill for removing Newsances and Incumbrances from Dock Square and elsewhere, and also regulating the Market.

Moved, and Voted, that the Selectmen be desired to Notefy in the News Papers the Adjournment of this Meeting, at which it will be considered whether the Town will then proceed to the

Choice of [**242.**] two Representatives in the room of the Gentelmen who have resigned or declined serving

Adjourned to Tuesday next being the 13th. Day of May, 10. O Clock in the Forenoon

May 13th. 10. O Clock Forenoon Met According to Adjournment.
The Selectmen presided

The Town took into consideration

Whether a Gentelman should now be chosen to Represent the Town in the General Assembly of this Commonwealth in the room of Mr. Thomas Walley who has declined serving — and it having been determined to choose one Gentelman in the Room of the said Mr. Walley who has resigned — It was then moved that the choice of a Representative be refferred to the Afternoon. and that it is proposed that the Poll be closed at 4 O Clock Afternoon.

Colo. Daws took the Chair.

The Committee appointed to prepare & to Audit Accounts of Mr. Boyer Town Treasurer — Reported and the Report having been read, it was moved and Voted, that this Report be recommitted.

[**243.**] The Committee Appointed to prepare a Draught of Instructions to the Gentelmen who Represent the Town in the General Court Reported a Draught, which being read, it was moved and Voted, that the same be referred for consideration to the Afternoon.

Adjourned to 3 O'Clock in the Afternoon

3. O'Clock in the Afternoon Met according to Adjournment.
The Selectmen presided

Moved & Voted, that it be a rule at the present Meeting, that all those Persons who give in their Votes for a Representative, shall enter the Hall and there remaine untill the Poll shall be closed.

Voted, that the Vote passed in the Morning proposing that the Poll be closed at 4. O'Clock be reconsidered and it is proposed that the Poll for the choice of a Representative be closed at 5. O: Clock this Afternoon.

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for one Representative.

The Votes, being brought in for one Representative the number of the same were found to be One hundred & fourteen — and upon sorting them it Appeared that

John Rowe Esqr.

	Votes.
was chosen by a Majority of Votes - - - - - - - - - -	59

[**244.**] The business relative to the choice of a Representative being over

Colo. Daws

took the Chair.

The Report of Committee for draughting Instructions to the Gentelmen chosen to Represent this Town in the General Court again taken up — and the Draught of Instructions having been considered paragraph by paragraph — was accepted by the Town, and are as follows. Vizt.

Gentelmen

Having made choice of you to Represent this Town in the General Court the year ensuing, We confide in your Integrity and good Understanding to conduct the Publick Affairs in our Behalf, in such Manner as to promote the Interest and Safety of the Commonwealth at Large and of this Metropolis in particular. It is nevertheless our unalienable Right to communicate to you our Sentiments; and when we shall judge it necessary or convenient to give you our Instructions on any Special Matter, and We expect you will hold yourselves at all times bound to Attend to and to [**245.**] Observe them. You will constantly bear it on your Minds, that this Commonwealth is free Sovereign and Independent; and that it retains every Power Jurisdiction and Right which is not by the Confederation or may not hereafter by the People, be expressly delegated to the United States in Congress Assembled — You will therefore conceive it to be your bounden Duty in your legislative Capacity, to exercise the Powers of the Commonwealth vested in you with your utmost Wisdom, to guard its Rights with all possible Vigilance, and take Care that its sovereign Jurisdiction be not impared or unreasonably delagated to Other Persons, besides those in whom the Constitution hath vested it on any Pretence whatever.

Self preservation is said to be the first Law of Nature, It holds good equally with Societies and Individuals, you will therefore carefully Advert to those Principles which are essential to the Preservation of a free Commonwealth. In this you will be greatly aided by our excellent Frame of Government and the Declaration of Rights, which we recommend to your frequent Perusal — There we find it to be the express Sentiment of the Body of this People, that the preservation of Good Government, essentially [**246.**] depends upon Piety Religion and Morality, and that these cannot be generally diffused among a Community but by the Institution of the Public Worship of God — That Wisdom and Knowledge, as well as Virtue are necessary for the preservation of the Rights and Liberties of the People. — That it is the Duty of the Legislators and Magistrates of the Commonwealth, to cherrish the Interest of Literature and the Sciences, and all Seminaries of them especially the University at Cambridge, Publick Schools and Grammar Schools, in the Towns — That Piety Justice, Moderation, Temperance, Industry and Frugality, are absolutely necessary to preserve the Advantages of Liberty — These are the Principles of our Constitution, which it was incumbent on us very particularly to attend to in our Choice of you to represent us; and we require of you the Strict Observance of them in the Part you shall take in the formation of all Laws Necessary for the good Administration of the Affairs of the Commonwealth. We shall always Submit chearfully to Laws formed on those Principles, and wish for as perfect a [**247.**] System as human Wisdom can contrive; at the same time, as faithfull Citizens, we must enjoin it upon you, to use your utmost Influence, that the Act of this Commonwealth, intitled an Act for the due Observation of the Lords Day, and other penal Laws may be carefully revised, that Such of them or parts of them as are repugnant to the Rights and Liberties contained in the Constitution, may be altered and amended or repealed.

Moreover in the aforesaid Declaration of Rights, the impartial Interpretation of the Laws, and Administration of Justice are expressly held to be essential to the Preservation of the Rights of every Individul, his Life, Liberty, Property and Character; We therefore expect that you will use your utmost Endeavours that all due Encouragement be given to the Ministers of Justice; and particularly, that an honorable Support be Afforded, as the Constitution requires, to the Judges of the Supreme Judicial Court. You will also take Care that the Three Great Powers of Government the Legislative, Executive, and Judicial be kept distinct Agreeable to the Letter of our Constitution, and the Spirit of every free [**248.**] Government — This we more especially remind you of, inasmuch as we believe there has been an Interference in the Exercise of these several Powers which leads to a fatal Change of a free Commonwealth for Tyranny or Anarchy and Confusion.

You will always remember that you represent a Trading Town; and therefore while you justly give your Attention to every Consideration which may lead to promote Agriculture in its utmost Extent, you will not fail to exert yourselves in proposing and enforcing every Measure Adapted to cherish and extend our Trade, and to encourage the Fishery, which by the Blessing of Heaven is secured to us by the Treaty of Peace. — We cannot too warmly express our Gratitude to Almighty God, who hath smiled on the virtuous Struggles of the United States, and crowned the Conflict with so happy a Conclusion, Our Independence is confirmed — A Blessing for which Patriots have long toiled and Heroes fought and Bled — Posterity can never justly charge us with tamely surrendering their Rights — We and they shall be Free so long as we shall [**249.**] deserve Freedom — It will depend upon our Virtue — But while we contemplate the Treaty in general with pleasure we cannot help feeling anxious for the Event of the fifth Article, which respects those Men who fled from their Country when their Liberties were Invaded, and took Residence in the Dominions of the Invader, Congress only can recommend — They will not Obtrude Citizins on any of the States — Much less declared Traitors — We give it to you as our Opinion, that the late Conspirators against the Rights and Liberties of America and of Mankind, whether they have Actually taken up Arms against us or not, who have taken Shelter in the Bosom of our Enemies, that Nation which has exhausted her Wealth and Strength to enslave us ought never be suffered to Return, but to be excluded from having any Lot or Portion among us.

The Committee Appointed to confer with the Abuttors on the Town Dock relative to the Title and property of the Lands; or any Privileges in the said Dock as, also with respect to any Compensation — Reported verbally and had leave to Report again

Moved and Voted, that the [**250.**] Instructions Agreed upon to be given the Gentlemen who Represent this Town in the General Court be published in the severall News Papers.

Moved that when this Meeting shall be Adjourned, it shall be to this Day three Weeks. 10. O Clock Fore noon.

And the Meeting was accordingly
Adjourned.

Tuesday June 3^d. 1783. 10. O'Clock Forenoon, met according to Adjournment

Thomas Daws Esq^r. the Moderator of this Meeting being detained at the General Court, a Motion was made and passed that a Moderator Pro Tem^o. be now chosen by a Hand Vote.

Benjamin Kent Esq^r.

was chosen Moderator of this Meeting during the Absence of the Hon^{ble}. Samuel Adams Esq^r. the Moderator

It was moved and Voted, that this Meeting be Adjourned to 3. O Clock Afternoon and the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned.

3. O'Clock P: M Met according to Adjournment.

[252.] Benjamin Kent Esq^r. chosen a Moderator Pro. Tem^o. being Absent it was moved and Voted, that another Moderator Pro Tem^o. be now chosen.

Joseph Greenleaff Esq^r.

was chosen Moderator Pro Tem^o. by a Hand Vote

The Committee Appointed by the Town to examine the Books and Accompts of M^r. Peter Boyer Town Treasurer to March the 1st. 1783 — have Attended that service and beg leave to Report as follows.

That they find the Books and Accompts of said Treasurer regularly kept and posted up to the first of March 1783 by which it Appears that he charges himself for Taxes received, Rents, Sale of New Emission Money, and State Treasurers Certificates from the first of March 1782 to the first of March 1783. the Sum of Eighteen thousand seven hundred and six pounds nineteen Shillings and four Pence half Penny, and also new Notes hand issued in lieue of Old ones, which he has redeemed and charges the Town with to the Amount of Seven Thousand and thirty seven Pounds fourteen Shillings & 7^d. Specie the whole of s^d. two Sums Amounting to £25744. 13. 11½ Specie

[252.] And s^d. Treasurer discharges himself from the Above Sums in the following manner

Paid on the Selectmens Drafts to March 1st. 1783	£3944	18	1¾
Paid on the Overseers Draft to D^o - - - -	915	9	6½
Paid to old & New Creditors £3585 14 6½ & 1102 0 0¼	4687	14	6¾
Paid Loan Notes given to Supply Almshouse -	1050	0	0
Paid off old Notes given for supply of the Alms House	5766	13	8¼
Paid Interest of Ditto - - - - - - - -	1829	5	11½

Paid Premiums & Abatements made to the Late Collectors, Messrs. Shaw, Sumner, Thompson & Bayley on the Settlement of their Account	6549	8	½
Paid on Account of New Notes - - - - - -	449	15	2½
	£25193	5	2
Ballance Remaining in the hands of Peter Boyer Town Treasurer the 1st of March 1783 in hard Money carryd to New Account	551	8	9½
Specie	£25744	13	11½

Your Committee have carefully & in a Particular Manner Examined the Books & Accounts of said Treasurer also the Drafts of the Selectmen & Overseers & every Other publick charge & find them all Right Cast & proper & Sufficient Vouchers of every Charge.

There also remains in the hands of the Treasurer the 1st. of March 1783 besides the Above Ballance Vizt.

	Dollars			
[**253.**] In New Emission Money	57323 N.E. is	17196	18	0
In old Continental Money old Curry -		38202	7	8

for which said Treasurer remains Accountable to your Committee Also think it proper to inform the Town that it Appears by the Treasurers Books that there remained due from the four last Collectors Vizt. Mr. Bayley Mr. Williams Mr. Parker & Mr. Fallass. the first March 1783 — including their Premiums the following Sums Vizt.

From Mr. Bayley - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	£564	12	5¾
from Mr. Williams - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	924	2	6¾
from Mr. Parker - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	903	0	8¼
from Mr. Fallas - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	921	19	7¾
Specie —	£3313	15	4½

All which is humbly Submitted by Thomas Melvill, Thomas Walley, John Lowell. Boston May 1st. — 1783.

The foregoing Report having been read and considered — the Question was put. Vizt. Whether the same shall be accepted Passed in the Affermative.

The Article in the Warrant for March Meeting relative to a Grant for the services of the Present Year, Schoolmasters Salaries &c which was referred over to this Meeting for consideration — was read — whereupon it was moved & Voted, that a Committee be appointed to consider and Report what Sum of Money it will be necessary [**254.**] for the Town to raise in order to defrey the Expencies of the Current Year.

Voted, that Edward Payne Esqr.
Mr. Thomas Walley
Ezekiel Price Esqr.

be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid who are desired to make Report at the Adjournment of this Meeting.

The Committee Appointed to confer with the Abuttors on the Town Dock relative to Claims Compensation &c : — made a Verbal

Report — whereupon it was Moved — That said Committee be desired to proceed in the business Assigned them, and make Report thereof to the Town in writing at the Adjournment of this Meeting — and the Question being accordingly put — Passed in the Affermative

The Selectmen

Appointed a Committee to Act upon the List of Jurors.

Moved & Voted, that when this Meeting is Adjourned, it shall be to next Thursday Seven night 3. O'Clock P: M:

Moved & Voted, that the consideration of Schoolmasters Salarys be referred to the Adjournment.

Then the Meeting was Adjourned.

[**255.**] Thursday Three O Clock Afternoon Met According to Adjournment.

The Committee Appointed by the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston to examine the Claims of the Abuttors on the Town Dock have Attended that service and beg leave to Report

That the Claimes of said Abuttors, as well as the Claimes of The Town in and to the Dock are exceeding numerous Ancient and perplexed, and that the Committee have great reason to Suppose there is a very considerable Number of Deeds and Papers touching the Claimes aforesaid which have not yet been exhibited.

That if the Committee could gain possession of all the Papers, of every kind relating to said Claims it would even in that Case require such a length of Time to Obtain a final and determined Opinion touching the Nature and quantity of right of different Claimants as would have the *Speedy purpose* for which the Committee was chosen unanswered.

Besides your Committee would be cautious how they deside upon the right of any Person who denies all Authoriety to [**256.**] determin in such case, but the Authority of a Court Law.

Upon the whole the Committee having considered the long uninterrupted possession of the Abuttors and their Predecissors, and having looked into a large number of Deeds and Town Records are of Opinion, that the Town has little more than a right in common to that part of the Dock meant to be filled up, and that it is most convenient in the choice of difficulties to make some composition with the Abuttors and to make them some Offer for a release of their right be that more or less.

James Sullivan
Jo^s^. Waters Jun^r^.
Thomas Dawes Ju^r^.

The aforegoing Report having been read and considered the Question was put — Viz^t^. — Whether the same shall be Accepted — Passed in the Affirmative.

Moved, that a Committee be appointed to confer with the Abuttors on the Town Dock, and Report the Sums that Such Abuttors would take for their claim to the Dock, and in case the Abuttors do not mention a Sum, then the Committee and Abuttors shall agree upon three Persons to value said Claims and Report the same at the [**257.**] Adjournment of this Meeting — And the Question being accordingly put — Passed in the Affirmative.

Voted, that the Selectmen be and hereby are Appointed a Committee for the purposes Aforesaid

The Committee Appointed to consider and Report what Sum of Money it would be necessary for the Town to raise in order to defrey the Expencies of the Current Year Reported — And the Report having been read it was moved and Voted, that the consideration of this Report, and all other matters which remain unfinished to be referred over to the Adjournment of this Meeting

Moved, that when this Meeting is Adjourned it shall be to this Day seven Night — 3. O'Clock Afternoon

Voted, that the Town Clerk be directed to Notify the Inhabitants of the business of the Adjournment — Viz^{t}. — To grant the Sum of Money necessary to defrey the Expencies of the Current Year, and also the Salares of Schoolmasters Town Treasurer &c

Adjourned to Thursday the 19th. of June Instant. 3. OClock Afternoon.

[258.] Thursday the 19th. Day of June 3. O.Clock in the Afternoon the Town met according to Adjournment.

The Committee Appointed to consider what Sum of Money is necessary to be raised for defreying the Expencies of the Current year — Reported as follows Viz^{t}.

That it appears by the Treasurers Books and the Report of the Committee appointed to examine the Treasurers Accounts, there remained unpaid of the Selectmen and Overseers Draughts on the first of March last - - - - - - - - - - - - - £2020 0—

To discharge this Sum there was in the Treasury in Money - - - - - - -	£550	1164	
Due from the Collectors deduct^{g}. their Premiums and Abatem^{ts}. About 8 p C^{t}.	613		
Remains due to Compleat the Draughts of the last Year - - - - - - - - - - - - - -		£856	
To pay for New School House — since drawn for - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -		345	
To pay the Town Clerk for three years — past - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -		1000	
			2200
For the Expences of the Curr^{t}. year Schoolmasters Salaries - - - - - - - - - - -		£1200	
Watchmen £760 Town Treasurer and Town Clark £400 - - - - - - - - - - - -		1160	
[259.] Assessors — £600 — Premium for Collecting - - - - £600 - - - - - - -		1200	
6 p C^{t}. Abatement on £25000 - - - - - - -		1500	
Repairing the Streets, Buildings and other Contingent Charges at least - - - - - - - -		500	
For Posts Rails &c for the Market Square and filling up the Dock to be paid out of the Taxes exclusive — of the Abuttors Claims		500	
			£6060
To pay the Overseers Draughts for the Almshouse - - - - - - - - - - - - - -			2000
			£10260.

In this Estimate no Provision is made to pay any part of the old debts either principal or interest except the New Emission Money is Sold for the purpose of paying the Interest on the Notes, that have been brought in and renewed.

This Sum of £10260 - - - the Committee are of Opinion will be necessary - whether the Inhabitants can pay a larger or even so Large a Sum in Addition to the State Taxes, is submitted to the consideration of the Town —

The State Tax is upwards
- - - - of £17000.

Edward Payne
Thomas Walley
Ezekiel Price

The aforegoing Report having been read and Considered, it was moved that the Sum of £10,200 - - - - lawful Money be **[260.]** raised by a Tax on the Inhabitants to defry the Expencies of the Town the Current Year — and the Question being accordingly put — Passed in the Affirmative.

It was moved and carried that the Above Vote for raising £10,200 — for the defreying the Charges of the Current year be reconsidered — also

Voted, that the Sum of Nine thousand Pounds lawful Money be raised by a Tax upon the Polls and Rateable Estates of the Inhabitants of this Town in order to defrey the necessary Expences of the Current Year.

Moved, that a Committee be now Appointed to consider and Report what they shall Judge to be proper and adequate Salaries for the Schoolmasters and Town Treasurer the present Year — And the Question being accordingly put — Passed in the Affermative — also

Voted, that Mr. Thomas Walley excused
Mr. John Lowell
Mr. Joseph Russel
Joseph Barrel Esqr.

be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid to Report at the Adjournment.

Moved that when this Meeting is Adjourned it shall be to this Day fortnight **[261.]** 3. O Clock. Afternoon, being the 3d. Day of July

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Thursday the 19th. Day of June Anno Domini 1783. 4. O'Clock in the Afternoon

Warrant for calling the Meeting was read.

The Precept received from the Speaker of the House of Representatives for the choosing one Person to Represent this Town in the General Court this present year in the Room of the Honble. John Pitts Esqr. who has been Elected Senator and accepted the Trust — was read — and After some debate had thereon

It was moved, that the Town proceed to make choice of one Person to Represent this Town in the General Court of this Commonwealth for the present Year in room of the Honble. John

Pitts Esq^r. who has been Elected Senator and Accepted [**262.**] the Trust — And the Question being accordingly put — Passed in the Negative.

It was then moved that this Meeting be dissolved.

And the Meeting was accordingly dissolved.

At an Adjournment of the May Meeting July 3^d. 1783. 3. O Clock in the Afternoon.

Joseph Greenleaf Esq^r.

in the Chair

The Article in the Warrant — Viz^t. "To consider the request of a Number of the Inhabitants that no Person whatever be suffered to sell pickeled Meat Butter or Wet Provisions of any kind whatever in the Market &c— was read — as also the Petition to the Selectmen, requesting, that said Article might be inserted in the Warrant for calling the Meeting — whereupon after some debate it was moved and Voted, that the further consideration of this Article be deffered.

The Article in the Warrant. Viz^t. "To consider of some speedy method for payment of the Expence incurred by Building the New School-house," was read. and After some debate, the Town declined Acting upon said Article

[**263.**] The Article in the Warrant, Viz^t. — To consider the Request of the Constables that some recompence may be made them for services rendered the Town in that Office" — was read & considered; whereupon the Question was put. Viz^t. — Whether the said Request shall be granted— Passed in the Negative.

The Committee Appointed to consider and Report what they should Judge Adequate Grants to the School Masters for the present Year — having Reported to the Town as their Opinon that the Same Allowances be made the Several Schoolmasters for their services the present Year as were made them the last Year — the following Votes were passed — Viz^t.

Voted, that the Sum of two hundred Pounds, be allowed and paid unto M^r. Samuel Hunt for his Salary as Master of the South Grammar School the present year to commence the first of March last, the same to be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due.

Voted, that the Sum of two hundred Pounds be allowed and paid unto M^r. Nathan Davis for his Salary as Master of the North Grammer School the present Year, commencing from the first of March last the same to be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due.

[**264.**] Voted, that the Sum of One hundred and Ninety Pounds be allowed and paid unto M^r. James Carter for his Salary as Master of the Writing School in Queen Street the present Year commencing from the first of March last, the same to be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due.

Voted, that the Sum of One hundred and Ninety Pounds. be allowed and paid unto M^r. James Tileston for his Salary as Master of the North Writing School the present year, the same to be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due and to commence from the first of March last.

Voted, that the Sum of One hundred and Ninety Pounds be allowed and paid unto Mr. John Vinal for his Salary as Master of the Writing School in the Common the present year, the same to be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due, and to commence from the first of March last

Voted, that the Sum of One hundred Pounds be allowed and paid unto Mr. Samuel Payson for his Salary as Usher of the South Grammer School for the present Year the Same to be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due, and to commence from the first of March last

[**265.**] Voted, that Mr. John Tileston Master of the North Writing School be allowed for House Rent the present year the Sum of forty Pounds, the Same to be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due and to commence from the first of March last

Voted, that Mr. Nathan Davis Master of the North Grammer School be allowed for House Rent the Present Year the Sum of Forty Pounds, the same to be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due and to commence from the first of March last

Voted, that Mr. John Vinal Master of the Writing School in the Common be allowed for House Rent the present Year the Sum of forty Pounds, the same to be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due and to commence from the first of March last

Voted, that Mr. Peter Boyer be allowed and paid the Sum of Two hundred Pounds for his Services as Treasurer the present Year, the same to be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due and to commence the first of March Last

[**266.**] The Committee Appointed to confer with the Abutters on the Town Dock relative to any Claims of Priviledge &c in said Dock being called upon to Report — informed the Town that they were not as yet able to make Report.

Moved that a Committee be now appointed to take into consideration what is still due to David Jeffries Esqr. late Town Treasurer for his Services in that Office and to Report at the Adjournment if any or at the next Town Meeting — The Question being accordingly put — Passed in the Affirmative.

Voted, that Mr. Thomas Walley
Mr. John Lowel
Mr. Henry Prentice
be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

Voted, that all Matters & things which remain unfinished at this Meeting be referred over to the next general Town Meeting that shall be called then to be acted upon

Then the Meeting was dissolved

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified & legally warned in [**267.**] Publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Fryday the 4th. Day of July Anno Domini 1783 — 10. O.Clock in the Forenoon

Warrant for calling this Meeting was read

The Hon^{ble}. James Sullivan Esq^{r}. was chosen Moderator of this Meeting & took his Seat accordingly.

The Committee appointed by the Town the Tenth of March last to Apply to a proper Gentelman to deliver an Oration on the fourth Day of July Instant (in such Place as the Town shall determine to be most convenient for the purpose) it being a Day ever memorable in the Annals of this Country for the Declaration of our Independence

Reported

That having met several times for the purposes mentioned in the Town Vote, they have unanimously made choice of D^{r}. John Warren to deliver an Oration on the fourth of July Instant, who had accordingly accepted of that service

The foregoing Report having been read, the same was accepted by the Town

Upon a Motion the Town took into consideration when would be the best time [**268.**] to have the Oration pronounced; as also what place would be most suitable for the purpose whereupon

Voted, that the Oration be delivered at D^{r}. Coopers Church in Brattle street, the Hall not being capacious enough to receive the Inhabitants that Attend upon the Occasion — also

Voted, that William Tudor Esq^{r}.
Thomas Daws Esq^{r}.
Ebenezer Hancock Esq^{r}.
be a Committee to wait upon D^{r}. John Warren, and acquaint him that it is the desire of the Town, that the Oration may be delivered at D^{r}. Coopers Church as soon as the Religeous Exercises as directed by the Gen^{l}. Court are ended, as also to Ask leave of the Committee of said Church for the use of that Building

On a Motion Voted, that this Meeting be Adjourned to Saturday next, 12. — O'Clock at Noon then to met in this Place

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

Saturday the 5th. Day of July 12. O'Clock at Noon — Town Met According to Adjournment

[**269.**] AN ORATION

To commemorate the Independence of the United States of America was delivered by D^{r}. John Warren at D^{r}. Coopers Church on the Yesterday to a large and crouded Assembly, that Day being the Anniversary of said Independance

On a Motion Voted, that The Selectmen be and hereby are appointed a Committee to wait on Doct^{r}. John Warren, and in the Name of the Town to Thank him for the learned and elegant *Oration* delivered by him Yesterday at the Request of the Town upon the Anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America in which according to the Institution of the Town he considered the feelings, manners, and Principles which lead to that great National Event — And to request of him a Copy thereof for the Press.

On a Motion Voted, that

The Gentelmen the Selectmen be and hereby are appointed a

Committee to Apply to some Learned and Able Gentelman to deliver an *Oration* on the 4th. of July 1784 that Day being the Anniversary of the Independence of the United [**270.**] States of America, wherein the Orator is to consider the feelings manners and principles which lead to this great National Event, as well as the important and happy Effects whether general or Domestice which have already and will forever continue to flow from that Auspicious Epoch.

Then the Meeting was dissolved

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 11th. Day of August Anno Domini 1783 — 3. O'Clock P.M.

Warrant for calling the Meeting — was read.

Moved & Voted, that a Moderator for this Meeting be chosen by a Hand Vote.

The Honble. Robert Treat Paine Esqr. was chosen Moderator, but being by his desire excused from serving

Thomas Dawes Esqr.

was chosen Moderator, and took the Chair accordingly.

[**271.**] The Petition of a Number of Physicians for leave to Erect an Inoculating Hospital at Apple Island &c — Vizt.

To The Freeholders & Other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston in publick Town Meeting Assembled.

When the People of this Commonwealth were a part of the British Nation, and consequently were connected in Commerce only with that Kingdom, their Islands and Countries, it happened by this intercourse, that nearly once in ten years that distructive Disorder the Small Pox made its Appearance in this Metropolis, sweeping from the Stage in its progress, the enterprising Merchant the busy Mechanic, and the valuable Patriot, before leave could be obtained to mitigate its Severity by the Hand of the Inoculation. — The Inhabitants flew from the face of the destroyer and with them a very important Part of the Trade of this Metropolis, which has scarcely at this day returned, since we have now Opened an Intercourse with the Nations of Europe and all the Islands in the West Indies, may we not justly expect this disorder will be much oftner brought among us which will occasion an Obstruction in Trade very injurious to a large Commercial City; to prevent these Evils in future, which we conceive may be effected by an Appropriation of some convenient place for Inoculation, where every Person who wishes to pass through [**272.**] the Disorder may without any danger to that part of the Community who from Infirmity or disinclination would Chuse to Avoid it.

The Subscribers beg leave to Petition for Liberty to carry on the Business of Innoculation upon Apple Island it being a very Safe and convenient Situation; or some Other place within the Jurisdiction of the Town in the neighbourhood of said Island, and to be under such regulations as the Law directs, as they doubt not the Town will be convinced of the Utility of the Institution they therefor with pleasure submit to their wise consideration.

And your Petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray

John Warren
Thomas Welsh
Aaron Dexter
John Bartlett

The foregoing Petition having been read, and considered, it was Moved, and the Question Accordingly put — Viz^t^. — Whether the Town consent and Approve of the busines of Inoculation being carried on upon Apple Island — Passed in the Affermative

The Petition of the Town of Chelsea relative to their being reannexed to the Town of Boston, was laid before the Town and is as follows Viz^t^.

[273.] To the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston the Address and Petition of the Town of Chelsea Humbly Sheweth.

That having for the Space of Forty five years experienced many disadvantages from a Small Incorporation, which at first was unfairly Obtained; and being now greatly reduced and impoverished by a very unequal proportion of Public Taxes which was Assigned us through the Ignorance of our Representative in the year 1781 — And although the Hon. General Court, has for the present Adjusted our valuation nearly to an equality with the Other Towns in the Country — Yet we find ourselves in Absolute need of protection and security from Such evils for the future Superior to what we are capable of exerting for ourselves — And therefore we take the Liberty respectfully to Address you on the Subject of a reunion, that we may once more be considered as a branch of this Metropolis.

We have long regretted a Seperation which has proved the source of such ruinous consequences to us; And if no consideration of detriment or Additional Charge should Appear in your discernment to Accrue, we can't but hope from the generous and public Spirit which has Always distinguished the Inhabitants of this Metropolis, that this **[274.]** Address will be thought worthy of your Attention at least so far as to favour us with a conferance upon the Subject by a Committee.

And your Petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray &c.

Philip Payson Samuel Sargent John Sale Joshua Cheever Samuel Clark	Committee in the Name and behalf of the Town.

The foregoing Petition having been read, and debate had thereon, it was moved and

Voted, that the Petition of the Town of Chelsea be referred to a Committee to Consider the Same, and that the said Committee be directed to Confer with the Committee of the Town of Chelsea on the Subject matter thereof, and to Report as Soon as may be — also

Voted, unanimously that

The Gentelmen the Selectmen be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid.

The Article in the Warrant Vizt. To consider what allowances shall be made the Assessors for their Services the present Year." was read — whereupon it was moved and

Voted, that the Selectmen be directed to make such Allowance to the Assessors [**275.**] for their service as they may Judge proper; provided such allowance does not exceed the Sum of six Shillings p Day for said Services

Voted, that all Matters & things which remain unfinished at this Meeting be referred over to the next General Town Meeting that may be called then to be Acted upon.

Voted, that the thanks of the Town be given to Thomas Daws Esqr. the Moderator for his good Services

Then the Meeting was dissolved.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in publick Town Meeting Assembled at Fanuiel Hall on Fryday the 29th. Day of August Anno Domini 1783 — 3. O.Clock in the Afternoon

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for a Moderator of this Meeting, and the same being brought in and sorted, it Appeared that

Thomas Daws Esqr.

was chosen Moderator, unanimously

On a Motion the Petition of a number of a Number of Gentlemen, to the Selectmen for calling a Meeting - - - read

[**275 A.**] The Article in the Warrant Vizt. — To consider whether any thing shall be done respecting the Land at Olivers Dock laid Waste by the late Fire" — was read, whereupon it was moved and Voted — That a Committee be Appointed to confer with the Owners of Land near Olivers Dock made vacant by the late Fire, and Report to the Town at the Adjournment, the Terms on which the Owners will dispose of their said Lands also

Voted, that Thomas Daws Esqr. Moderator
Joseph Barrel Esq.
Nathaniel Appleton Esqr.
Nathaniel Balch
Nathan Frazier Esqr.

be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

The Article in the Warrant Vizt. "To consider what measures shall be taken to enforce the good and wholesome Laws respecting building with Wood" — was read whereupon

Voted, that Honble. Robert T. Payne Esqr.
John Lowel Esqr.
William Tudor Esqr.

be a Committee to examine the Laws relative to new Wooden

Buildings erected, and to Report a Draught of a Law, which may be efectual to prevent the evil complained of

[**276.**] The Article in the Warrant Viz^{t}. "To consider what measures shall be taken to enforce the good and wholesome Laws for preventing the firing Small Arms at the bottom of the Common on the Neck and else where within the Limits of the Town," was read whereupon

Voted, that the Gentelmen
The Selectmen

be directed, immediately to employ three Persons to see the Laws carried into execution for prevention of the dangerous practice complained of

The Committee appointed to confer with the Abuttors on the Town Dock, relative to a compensation for their Claims, Reported Verbally — That they had not as yet conferred with all the Abuttors so as they can now make a full Report to the Town, but hoped they should be able to do it at the Adjournment whereupon

Moved & Voted, that the Selectmen be desired to make as full a Report as may be relative to this matter at the Adjournment of this Meeting

The Article in the Warrant. Viz^{t}. "To consider what further measures shall be taken for the security of the Town by Night — was read — whereupon

[**276 A.**] Voted, that M^{r}. Sam: Whitwell
John Sweetser Esq^{r}.
M^{r}. Nath^{l}. Balch
Nath^{l}. Appleton Esq^{r}.
Joseph Barrel Esq^{r}.
Thomas Daws Esq^{r}.
M^{r}. Henry Prentice

be a Committee to consider this Article of the Warrant and Report at the Adjournment of this Meeting

The Committee appointed to examine into certain demands the Board of War have against the Town for Corn, Arms &c Amounting to Twenty Six hundred and forty Pounds, laid their Report before the Town — which Report is to be taken up and considered at the Adjournment of this Meeting

Moved, that this Meeting be Adjourned to Wednesday next being the third Day of September, 3. O'Clock in the Afternoon.

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned.

Wednesday the third Day of September, 3. O'Clock Afternoon — Met according to Adjournment.

[**277.**] The Committee to confer with the Abuttors on the Town Dock Reported verbally

That they had not been able to confer with all the Abuttors, Col^{o}. John Tyng who is one of them being in the Country Sick; but that the amount of the Sums required for compensation so far as they had gone, exclusive of M^{r}. Tyngs part, amounting to upwards of fifteen hundred Pounds, Appeared to them a Sum so large, that they were led to the Opinion, that it was not worth while for the Committee to proceed any further in the business of

Conference, without the Town should require it of them — After some debate, it was moved

That the Selectmen be impowered to confer with all or the Major part of the Abuttors on the Town Dock, or such as Shall legally represent them, and make them the proposal of submitting to the Arbitration and Award of three Persons to be mutually chosen and Agreed on by the Town and the said Abuttors, who shall have full Power finally to determine the Right, Title, Privilege and Claim of the said Abuttors to the Town Dock as filled up, and to determine and agree upon such Sum or Sums of Money as they shall think an Adequate Compensation to the said Abuttors for the filling up said Dock, if they have any Title or Privilege thereto; and that the Selectmen be fully impowered to nominate and Agree upon said Arbitrators in behalf of the Town **[278.]** and to enter into any Bonds and Covenants for the faithful performance of the Award of said Arbitrators — and the Question being accordingly put — It passed in the Affirmative

The Committee Appointed to confer with the Owners of Land near Olivers Dock made vacant by the late Fire — Reported verbally

That they had met several times on the business, and conferred with the Owners of the Land where the Buildings were consumed, as also the Abuttors on Land on the some square — that M^r. Phillips and some others, were willing to dispose of their Lands and Buildings provided the Other Owners and Abuttors were disposed to part with what might be sufficient to Answer the intention of the Town, the purchase of all which would amount to about five or Six Thousand Pounds — whereupon, it was moved and

Voted, that the Committee, be desired to proceed in the business and Report at the next Town Meeting in Writing and that the Selectmen insert in the Warrant for calling said Meeting a Clause for taking up said Report.

[279.] The Committee appointed to consider what further measures shall be taken for the security of the Town by Night Reported verbally — That there be an Additional Watch of eight Men, which they term a patroling Watch, to be partly made up from the other Watch, and to have an Additional pay — Also with respect to the Lamps being again lighted up in the Town, if the Town should think it expedient — It was then moved, and

Voted, that the Committee aforesaid be desired to Report their Opinion in Writing at the next Town Meeting which may be called, and that a Clause for taking up the Report be inserted in the Warrant for said Meeting.

The Committee relative to ascertaining the demands of the Board of War on the Town — Report as follows. Viz^t.

The Committee appointed to examine into certain demands the Board of War have against the Town for Corn Arms &c Amounting to £2640. 0. 0 Specie, have Attended that business and Report

That the seven hundred bushels of Corn charged £158. 19. 1 has been paid by William Phillips Esq^r.

The one nundred forty eight Armes and Accoutrements charged delivered Col^{o}. Proctor, he informed the Committee he would do his best **[279A]** endeavour to collect and return agreeable to the Condition of the Resolve of Court

The Ninety Cartouch Boxes and Ninety Bayonet Belts charged delivered Col^{o}. Crafts he informed the Committee he did not recollect receiving, but if he had them they were for the use of the Militia, and were not returned to him

The thirty one Fire Arms and Bayonets charged delivered Col^{o}: Hatch, the Committee are informed were for men inlisted for the Town into the Continental Army, which Men were detained in Town sometime for want of Arms, at great expence and hazard of desertion, that he took this method of procuring Arms for them, as the only expedient to get them to the Army, and to save the Town great charge

The Town will be informed by the Gentelmen Selectmen concerning the twenty hundred weight of Lead charged delivered John Scollay Esq^{r}. as also concerning the Arms delivered to General Gages order before the Seige, that were Afterwards taken & repaired by the State,

All the Other Articles charged against the Town, it appears by a sketch of the Account taken from the Books of the late Board of **[279B]** War (which is hereto annexed) were for the use of the States Hospital

Isaac Phillips p Order

The foregoing Report having been read it was moved, and

Voted, that the Selectmen be desired to make enquiry respecting the Articles mentioned in the foregoing Report as being wanting as also to call upon the Colonel and the Captains of the Militia of the Boston Regiment to Account for the small Arms delivered to them, in order for a Settlement of the Account with the Commonwealth

Moved, and Voted, that all matters and Things which remain unfinished at this Meeting, be and hereby are referred over to the next General Town Meeting that may be called then to be acted upon

Moved, and Voted, that the thanks of the Town be and hereby are given to Thomas Daws Esq^{r}. for his good Services as Moderator of this Meeting

Moved that this Meeting be now dissolved

And the Meeting was accordingly
dissolved

[280.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders & Other Inhabitants of The Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in publick Town Meeting Assembled at Fanuiel Hall on Monday the 8th. Day of December Anno Domini 1783 — 3. O Clock in the Afternoon.

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read

It was moved and Voted that the Moderator be chosen by a Hand Vote

The Hon^{ble}. James Sullivan Esq^{r}. was chosen Moderator of this Meeting and took his Seat accordingly.

The Article in the Warrant Viz^{t}. — To choose two or more suitable Persons to be Viewers, and Cullers of Staves and Hoops," was taken into consideration whereupon.

It was moved and Voted, that Six Persons be chosen Surveyers and Cullers of Staves and Hoops — also.

Voted, that these Persons be not chosen by a Hand Vote, but by Ballot

[**281.**] The Votes being accordingly brought in and sorted it appeared, that

Cap^{t}. John Newell
Cap^{t}. Manassah Masters
M^{r}. William Marsters
M^{r}. Daniel Bell
M^{r}. Arthur Langford
M^{r}. John M^{c}Elroy

were chosen Cullers of Staves &c for the remainder of the year

The Article in the Warrant Viz^{t}. — " To consider whether the Hay Market shall be removed to a Place more convenient for the Business" — whereupon

Voted, that the Selectmen be desired to carry the Report of the Committee relative to Land on Olivers Dock made vacant by the late Fire, into execution, so far as relates to removing the Engine for weighing Hay, near the School House by the Common.

The Committee appointed to confer with the Owners of the Land near Olivers Dock made Vacant by the late Fire, having attended the Business, take leave to Report

That as some of the Owners of said Land are unwilling to dispose of the same, and the great Expence that will attend the purchasing from *Others so much* as will be necessary to Answer the intention of the Town [**282.**] it is not expedient for the Town to take any further steps relative to the said Place more especially as the Committee conceive the Town may be much better accommodated near the School House by the Common on their *own Land*, and by removing the Engine for weighing the Hay to that Place it will naturally become the Market Place for that Article, and by being more in the Center of the Town will better Accommodate the Inhabitants, all which is Submitted

Thomas Daws p Order

The foregoing Report having been read and considered — the Question was put — Viz^{t}. — Whether the same shall be accepted — Passed in the Affirmative

The Committee appointed to consider what further Measures shall be taken for the security of the Town by Night having attended the Business, take leave to Report — Whereas it appears

That there are four Watch Houses kept up in the Town, to each of which are Appointed one Constable at eleven Dollars per Month, and five Watchmen at eight Dollars p Month, each amounting in the whole to Seven hundred thirty four Pounds [**283.**]

eight Shillings p Annum exclusive of Fewell and Candles, and the Advantage arising from the said Watches appear to be no ways equal to the Expence.

It is therefore presumed that a different disposition of the Watch, will tend much more for the Safety and Security of the Town by Night than the present.

If each of the present Watch Houses were reduced *to four*, and the eight taken from them to form another Watch, to be kept near the State House and this Watch to have an addition of one Shilling p Night to what the Others have to induce Persons suitable for the business to engage and they to be a patrolling Watch to inspect the Others &c.

As the Gentelmen the Selectmen will direct it is supposed the Town may reap such advantages from this Alteration, as will compinsate for the additional Expence.

And the Committee also Report, that the lighting the Town as formerly will further Add to its security — upon enquiring they find one hundred and twenty Lamps left in the upper Chamber [**284.**] of the Hall, and from the best intellegence suppose that about eighty are out in the Town, on this presumption One hundred more Lamps will make up the Number that was originally kept up for lighting the Town

The greatest part of the Posts and Irons are in their Places — The former Expencies of the Lamp Lighters & Master amounted to £155. 4. 0. and the Oyl and Wick about £300. 0. 0 more p Annum — All which is Submitted.

Thomas Daws p order

The foregoing Report having been read and considered — whereupon

It was moved and Voted, that so much of said Report as respects a Patrolling Watch be accepted — and that the Selectmen be and hereby are appointed a Committee to carry the same into execution as soon as may be.

A further debate arose respecting that part of the Report which respects, the Lamps and lighting the town, whereupon it was moved that a Committee be now Appointed to Collect all the Lamps [**285.**] which are in Town and others belonging to the Town, and that they devise ways and means for the immediate lighting the Town and make Report at the Adjournment of this Meeting — also

Voted, that Thomas Daws Esq^r.
John Sweetser
William Whitwell
M^r. Nath^l. Balch
Nath^l. Appleton Esq^r.
Joseph Barrel Esq^r.
M^r. Henry Prentice

be a Committee for the purpose aforesaid

The Article in the Warrant — Viz^t.

To receive the Report of the Committee relative to market Square" — was read — but one of said Committee being in the Meeting acquainted the Town that they were not yet ready to make Report — whereupon it was moved and

Voted, that the Gentelmen who Represent the Town in the General Court of this Commonwealth be and hereby are *Instructed* to use their endeavors in the General Court that a [**286.**] Law may be obtained to prevent or remove Incumbrances on the Market Square, Simular to the Draught of a By Law lately presented the Court of Sessions for that purpose which was not obtained as they apprehend, that only the General Court could pass such a Law

The Article in the Warrant Vizt.

"That the Town will come into some Measures for the regulating the tolling of the Bells for Funerals" — was read it was then moved, and

Voted, that the Selectmen be a Committee to take this Article into consideration; as also what may be necessary for regulating the Expencies of Burials; and to make Report at the Adjournment of this Meeting.

The Committee appointed to examine and Report what they Judge may be still due to the late Treasurer David Jeffries Esqr. for his servicies as Treasurer of the Town Report as follows — Vizt.

The Committee appointed by a Vote of the Town of July 3d. 1783 — to take into consideration what is still due to David Jeffries Esqr. late Town Treasurer for his Services in that Office & report to the Town have attended that service and beg leave to make the following Report.

[**287.**] That they have carefully examined the Selectmens drafts from the year 1774 to the present day in order to Ascertain what he has received from the Town in those Years & they find that he has not had any drafts for his Salary for the years 1775. 1778 & 1781. They have also carefully examined the Sums he has received in paper Money in the other years in order to discover how near it came in Value to the Salary in solid Money which we suppose he was entitled to. We herewith annex a State of his Account to March 1782. the time he resigned, wherein will be seen the Allowances we have made him for those Years — And as we find the Business of the Treasurer was greatly increased in the Years 1779. 1780. & 1781. owing to the depreciated paper currency & the price of all the necessarys of Life so excessive high in 1780 & 1781 — Your Committee are of Opinion he is Justly entitled to the severall allowances we have made him, Whereby it will appear that there is a ballance due to him from the Town of Eight hundred & Eleven pounds fifteen shillings & 4d. Specie, which your Committee are of Opinion ought to be on Interest till it is discharged — all which is submitted — Thomas Walley

£811. 15. 4. p Order of the Committee

Boston Decr. 6. 1783

[**288.**] The foregoing Report having been read — it was moved and Voted that the consideration thereof be Referred to next March Meeting.

It was Moved that when this Meeting is Adjourned it shall be to Thursday the 18th. Day of December Inst. 3. O Clock in the Afternoon.

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned.

Thursday the 18th. Day of December met according to Adjournment.

The Honble. James Sullivan Esqr. the Moderator of this Meeting having excused himself from attending this Afternoon — It was moved that the Town now come to the choice of a Moderator Pro Temo.

Voted, that a Moderator Pro Temo: be chosen by a Hand Vote

Perez Morton Esqr.

was chosen Moderator Pro Temo. and took the Seat accordingly.

The Committee appointed to Collect the Lamps belonging to the Town, and also to devise ways and means for the speedy [**289.**] lighting the same, not having Reported in writing, it was moved and carried that the Consideration of this Matter be passed over for the present

The Committee appointed to carry the Resolution of the Town into execution with respect to appointing a patrolling Watch, being called upon to know whether the Same had been effected, acquainted the Town, that not having been able to Obtain a suitable place for a Watch House, they should postpone the appointing said Watch, but hoped soon to be able to answer the intention of the Town relative to said Watch

The Committee appointed to consider of some measures for regulating the Expencies at Funerals, and Tolling the Bells on such occasion — Reported to the Town in writing on those Matters — but as what related to the regulation of Funerals was Objected to, as not being inserted in the Warrant for calling the Meeting; the Town attended chiefly to that part of the Report, relative to the tolling of Bells at Funerals, and after considerable debate and arguments thereon the Town came into the following Resolution Vizt.

Voted, that in future there be only one Bell tolled at each Funeral; and that the Bell of the Parish to which the Deceased belonged [**290.**] Or the Bell of the Parish nearest to the Habitation where the Deceased Dwelled at the Election of the Relations of the Deceased.

That in tolling the Bells for such Funerals, not more than two Strokes of a Bell be given in one Minute.

The Committee for collecting the Lamps belonging to the Town, and for divising ways and means for the immediate lighting the Town, not being ready to make Report.

It was Moved and Voted that

Colo. Tudor

be added to the Committee; who are desired to set forthwith, and Report to the Town at the Adjournment the ways and means for carrying said intention of the Town into immediate execution.

It was moved that when this Meeting is Adjourned, it shall be to Wednesday the Twenty fourth Day of December Instant 3. O'Clock in the Afternoon.

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned to said Time then to Meet in this Place.

Wednesday the 24 Day of December 3. O Clock: Afternoon — Met according to Adjournment

[291.] The Hon^{ble}. James Sullivan the Moderator and Perez Moreton Esq^{r}. Moderator Pro. Tem^{o}. not being able to give their Attendance, it was moved and Voted, to come to the choice of another Moderator Pro Tem^{o}. in order to regulate the Meeting and that this choice be by a hand Vote.

Ezekiel Price Esq^{r}.

was accordingly chosen Moderator Pro. Tem^{o}.

The Committee Appointed to Collect the Lamps &c take leave to Report.

That it was the Intention of the Town to have Lamps lighted as heretofore if a sufficient number could be Obtained for the purpose. And that a Committee would attend at Fanuiel Hall on Tuesday the 23^{d}. Instant from eleven to one of the Clock beforenoon at which time & place the Inhabitants who had any Lamps in their Possession were desired to send in their Names & Place of Abode to the said Committee in order that the number of Lamps belonging to the Town or otherways might be known and also if any Person had any to dispose of they were requested to Give in their Names with the Number they have on Hand that a satisfactory report might be made at the Adjournment "The Committee Attended the **[292.]** Business & would Inform the Town that no *Person* Attended in consequence of the aforesaid Notification.

They also desired a Gentelman at Salem to make Enquiry of the Lamps that are reported to be in that Town from whom they have not heard.

The Committee would further report that the Selectmen be requested to employ some Suitable Person as soon as may be, to take an Account of the Irons & Posts that was provided in the year 1774 now standing & what the deficiency is, to asurtain this the Committee will furnish him a list of them. An Enquirey may be also made if there is any Lamps in the Houses where the Irons are or in the Neighborhood of them And if a sufficient number of Lamps can in any ways be Obtained. That then the Selectmen be requested to Employ a Master & Lamp Lighters as before in this Business and make the necessary repairs & provide such Articles as may be wanted.

And that a Tax of Six hundred pounds be Assessed as soon as possible on the Inhabitants for the purpose of carrying **[293.]** This plan into Execution to be called the Lamp Tax this Tax will be about one sixtieth part of the last Tax. And it is supposed if made with nearly the same Materials may be soon done and the Meeting of it be not difficult, a person who pay'd sixty Dollars in the last Tax will pay about one in this — The Disposition of the Inhabitants with regard to lighting the Lamps will be soon known by the Collection of the said Tax.

But if it is found inexpedient for such a Tax to be immediately Assessed — Then the Town Treasurer may be directed to borrow a sufficient Sum for the said purpose, which Sum so borrowed shall be repaid out of the first Moneys collected from the next Tax Assessed on the Town.

All which is Submitted

Thos. Dawes p Order

The aforegoing Report having been read, and considered the Town came into the following Votes. Vizt.

Voted, that the Sum of Six hundred Pounds be raised by a Tax on the Polls and Rateable Estates of the Inhabitants of this Town, for the purpose of procuring such Lamps as may be wanted [**294.**] with their Materials, and to defrey the Expences which may be necessary for the lighting the Lamps; and that said Sum be Added to the next Tax that shall be issued in a Seperate Collum.

Voted, that the Selectmen be desired to draught a Subscription Paper and deliver the same into the Hands of the four Collectors of Taxes who are hereby directed to apply to the Inhabitants forthwith, to obtain by way of Subscription a Sum of Money not exceeding Six hundred Pounds for the purpose of purchasing Lamps and the Materials and lighting the Same, and pay the Money into the Town Treasury as soon as received for which Sum the Treasurer is hereby impowered and directed to give said Subscribers a Recept, to be deducted out of their Next Town Tax.

On a Motion Voted, that the Treasurer be directed to acquaint the Severall Collectors of Taxes that such Collectors as shall be Delinquent with respect to paying in their Tax on the first of February next, his Executions will be then Issued against such Collector.

Voted, that all Matters and things [**295.**] which remain unfinished at this Meeting be referred to the next General Town Meeting then to be Acted upon.

Thanks Voted to the Moderator.

Then the Meeting was dissolved.

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